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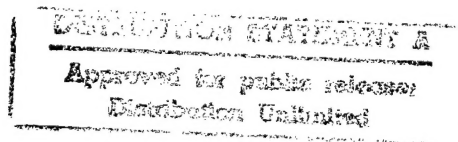
7 JANUARY 1988



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JPRS Report

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7 JANUARY 1988

ARMS CONTROL

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USSR: WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON SDI REPORTED

LD181127 Moscow TASS in English 0849 GMT 18 Nov 87

[Text] Washington November 18 TASS—TASS correspondent Igor Borisenko reports:

The question of whether the "Strategic Defense Initiative" is in U.S. national interests was in the focus of a debate which was held on Capitol Hill Tuesday.

"The "Star Wars" advocates were represented by General James Abrahamson, director of the SDI Organization, and former assistant secretary of defense Richard Perle.

Their opponents were astronomy Professor Carl Sagan of Cornell University and physics Professor Richard Garwin of Columbia University.

The arguments in support of space arms were the same old claims of "U.S. vulnerability to nuclear weapons", "the purely defensive nature" of the SDI project and of it being nothing more than a "research program".

General Abrahamson clearly attempted to brush the reasoning of the other side aside in advance when he accused them of using "oversimplistic arguments on a very, very complex subject".

The actual arguments used by the critics of the "Star Wars" plan, however, were most sound.

Garwin noted the very real chances now for abolishing all intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles and for reaching agreement to halve the strategic nuclear arsenals of the two great powers. He stressed "This is a surer way and a quicker way" to ward off the nuclear threat. As far as the SDI "research program" is concerned, he said it was "bound to fail".

Sagan, for his part, called attention to such an important issue of the "Star Wars" project's cost. He said the projected expenses in current financial conditions were a route to an economic collapse.

In the past six years the United States had turned from the major creditor into the major debtor in the world, with the military budget swelling annually by as much as the federal deficit, and the relationship was too obvious to be missed, Sagan continued.

As a result, the United States, he said, resembled an underdeveloped country in several respects. It occupied 17th place in the world for the child mortality rate and had a quarter of the population functionally illiterate, homeless people in every large city, and 20 million people going hungry every day, Sagan said.

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CSO: 52001026

USSR: SDI TALKS SEEN AS POSSIBLE AT 'FOURTH SUMMIT'

PM171353 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 18 Nov 87 p 9

[Igor Belyayev "Observer's Opinion": "The Accords Are Working!"]

[Text] Were we sure immediately after Reykjavik that the accords reached there—not without difficulty—would so quickly be turned into specific agreements? I do not want to act smart, and so I will say that no, we were not. There were grounds for this. I recall how, scarcely after the Gorbachev-Reagan meeting in the Icelandic capital had ended, all the U.S. and West European TV and radio stations without exception were claiming that the summit had failed. At the time—11-12 October 1986—I was in Rimini (Italy), where an annual conference was being held at the Pio Manzu Research Center under the auspices of Italian Foreign Minister G. Andreotti. The U.S. participant—R. Hunter, a former adviser to President Carter—even phoned Washington that night in an attempt to pinpoint just what had happened at Reykjavik. The next morning he spread his hands to show that the allegations of failure were true...

Yet just over a year later the world is discussing the prospects for a new Gorbachev-Reagan summit. This time in Washington. Britain has already stopped the deployment of medium-range missiles on its territory, in line with their accords. They are working. It seems to me, a favorable outcome to the Soviet-U.S. talks in Washington on medium- and shorter-range missiles will provide impetus for the resolution of the most acute international problems. If...

What do I have in mind? The raucous campaign that has already started in Congress to prevent ratification of a medium-range and operational-tactical missile treaty by U.S. legislators.

Regarding this campaign, I would like to recount what happened at this year's Pio Manzu Research Center conference (Rimini, October 1987). Representatives of banks, European and U.S. business circles, and popular politicians—G. Andreotti, Senator Gary Hart, and others—took part in it. Listening to them, I was convinced yet again that through his policy Soviet leader M.S. Gorbachev is persuading the West to travel along the road toward a world without war. The overwhelming majority of speakers, including eminent U.S. and European economists, called on Western leaders—something

that had never happened before—not to miss out on the chance to reshape modern international relations. Their sole aim is to save the world from nuclear death and to ensure mankind's survival.

Nobel Prize winner Vasilii Leontyev attracted attention. He left the Soviet Russia back in 1925 and has lived in the United States ever since. He is a world-renowned expert. In no way can he be suspected of harboring "Red" sympathies. V. Leontyev put the question this way:

"How are we to escape from the maze of highly complicated world politics today? In order to succeed," he said, "it is vitally necessary to pay close attention to what is happening in the Soviet Union. A 'wait and see' position is a bad position. The restructuring process must be helped along."

According to V. Leontyev, certain people in the United States want the conservatives in our country to win. There is a revolution under way in Russia, he stressed. That is why, as V. Leontyev's words show, the United States must meet Mikhail Gorbachev halfway rather than back off...

I am far from believing that everyone who heard the prestigious U.S. economist was eager to agree with him. However, they did receive further substantial food for thought.

In conclusion, I would single out a further point. The U.S. journalists M. Mandelbaum and S. Talbott—both well-known to *Literaturnaya Gazeta* readers—noted in the recent book *Reagan and Gorbachev* that even SDI could be a subject for negotiation to a certain extent. This would mean that the ABM Treaty would not be violated and an accord on 50% reductions in strategic offensive weapons would be reached. But this time not in Washington but in Moscow, where a fourth Soviet-U.S. summit could be held next spring.

USSR, CHINA SHARE 'IDENTICAL VIEWS'

OW231103 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0300 GMT 22 Nov 87

[Station commentator Shakov commentary]

[Text] When Zhu Liang, head of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee, met with Doi, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Socialist Party, he told her that the People's Republic of China opposes any attempt to extend the arms race to outer space. Thus, China has denounced the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative [SDI] plan. In this connection, our station commentator Shakhov points out:

Zhu Liang's remark indicates once more that China and the Soviet Union hold identical views on opposing the arms race in outer space. This is, naturally, satisfying. The fact that the two big socialist nations hold identical views in this connection will ensure bright prospects for the creation of a nuclear-free outer space. The Soviet Union believes that those who go along with an arms race in outer space will face a dangerous situation and that those who advocate the reduction of nuclear arms may avert sudden danger. The reason is: The United States is trying to realize its plan — the Star Wars plan — at all costs and deploy nuclear arms and other types of weapons in outer space. Therefore, our nation has time and again called for efforts to abide by the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

Washington has tried its best to drag its allies, including its allies in Asia, into the Star Wars plan. This is why the aforementioned denunciation by China of the SDI program is of great urgency. Japan has not only supported the SDI program, but also actively participated in it. Israel has also announced its decision to participate in the SDI program. Washington has taken measures to drag other Asian-Pacific countries into the SDI program. This situation is particularly dangerous to the security of any Asian nation which was once burned by a nuclear power.

The U.S. ruling clique has more than once made preparations to use nuclear weapons. They were prepared to use them in committing aggression against the Korean people and in carrying out armed aggression against Vietnam. The U.S. plans to send its nuclear arms into outer space to threaten the people of various countries, first of all the Asian people. This is precisely why the People's Republic of China feels so urgent in denouncing the Star Wars plan.

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CSO: 52001026

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: FURTHER ON VORONTSOV, KAMPELMAN IN GENEVA

Treaty To Be Done 23 Nov

LD171400 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 17 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva November 17 TASS—Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, believes that a Soviet-U.S. treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles will be ready for signature on time, that is during the forthcoming visit by Mikhail Gorbachev to Washington.

Vorontsov, who is leading the Soviet delegation to talks with the United States on nuclear and space arms, has had meetings here over the past few days with the leader of the U.S. delegation, Max Kampelman.

Speaking in an interview with Soviet television, he said work on the treaty, a document of some 120 pages, was in the final phase and should be completed by November 23.

But difficulties kept popping up even at the last moment: It had turned out, for example, that the American delegation suggested a pretty strange way of eliminating its cruise missiles, whereby the warheads, guidance systems and rocket motors would all remain intact, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister said.

"So we asked the Americans what they are proposing to destroy and this turned out to be the missile's casing and wings. This is, of course, not serious and we shall press for a real destruction of these missiles," Vorontsov continued.

As far as verification issues are concerned, he said the arrangements for keeping a watch over what was being destroyed had already been worked out, but the snag was in artificial verification issues raised by the U.S. side.

It wanted, for instance, to establish during the process of doing away with intermediate-range missiles procedures for monitoring Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles, but that was an unnecessary demand since it would be a subject of the next agreement on 50-percent cuts in strategic offensive missiles, Vorontsov said.

"We think that we shall be able to persuade the American side to remove these artificial issues and that the treaty will be prepared for signing on time," he added.

Kampelman: 'Very Close'

LD171938 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1918 GMT 17 Nov 87

[Text] New York, 17 Nov (TASS)—Max Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks, expressed confidence in concluding an agreement on full elimination of the USSR and U.S. medium- and shorter-range missiles. In the interview with NBC, he stated:

"We are very, very close to concluding an agreement. We will conclude it. I expect that the agreement will be signed by President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev during the summit meeting in the beginning of December."

Vorontsov Comments

LD172046 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 17 Nov 87

[Text] At the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons in Geneva the articles of the forthcoming agreement between the two countries, on medium- and shorter-range missiles, are now being drawn up and agreed on. Our correspondent Vladimir Dmitriyev reports from Geneva.

[Dmitriyev] During the last few days the talks have been conducted with the participation of the heads of the delegations; Yuliy Mikhaylovich Vorontsov and Max Kampelman. A multitude of journalists have come here from various countries, along with special correspondents from radio, television, newspapers, magazines. The world press is now paying enormous attention to Geneva. After all, the next Soviet-U.S. summit meeting will begin in 3 weeks. At the Soviet mission I talked to Yuliy Mikhaylovich Vorontsov, leader of the USSR Delegation at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

[Begin recording] [Dmitriyev] Yuliy Mikhaylovich, as is known, the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting will begin in Washington on 7 December, where a joint treaty is to be signed, the articles of which are being discussed and agreed on here in Geneva. An impression is being created—perhaps it is mistaken—that there is no end to this work. What are the difficulties?

[Vorontsov] No, of course there must be an end, and we have now agreed with the U.S. delegation to complete all the work by 23 November. The difficulties consist of the fact that quite often complex matters delay the delegations; and when the end approaches and they have to be resolved, the complexities do not diminish. But we will come to an agreement about all the necessary decisions. They are already being completed. We are indeed completing work on the treaty.

But difficulties arise even at the last moment. For example, it is becoming clear that the U.S. delegation is proposing a fairly strange method of eliminating its cruise missiles. The warhead, and the guidance system, and the missile's motor are to remain. We asked the Americans: Well, what are they proposing to eliminate then? It turned out to be the air frame of the missile and the wings. Of course, that is not a serious approach, and we will strive for the real elimination of those missiles.

Now we are being delayed by artificial, concocted verification issues raised by the U.S. side. For instance, in the process of eliminating medium-range missiles they want to begin monitoring [kontrol] of Soviet intercontinental missiles. We are rejecting that demand, we think it unnecessary—it is indeed unnecessary. This is the subject of the next agreement, on a 50% reduction in strategic offensive weapons. Therefore, we are being delayed by such artificial issues. We think we will manage to persuade the U.S. side to remove those issues, and the treaty will be ready for signing at the agreed time. [end recording]

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CSO: 52001027

SOVIET ARMS EXPERT REFUTES GEN ROGERS

LD172105 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 17 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow November 17 TASS—A statement of former NATO supreme allied commander—Europe, American General Rogers, in which he expressed his negative attitude to the intention of the U.S. Administration to conclude a Soviet-American agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles pursues a definite aim: To justify in the eyes of the broad public the Pentagon's and NATO's intentions to rearm and modernize their forces. This is how General Rogers' recent statement was commented upon by expert of the USSR Defence Ministry Major-General Filip Gontar.

In an interview to a TASS diplomat correspondent, the Soviet military expert said today that according to Rogers the elimination from Europe of U.S. medium-range missiles capable of reaching targets of U.S. medium-range missiles capable of reaching targets on the USSR territory will be the gravest mistake as a result of which Western Europe will remain unarmed.

Trying to intimidate philistines with "Soviet military supremacy", Rogers deliberately avoids mentioning the fact that up to one thousand nuclear delivery aircraft, some 200 launchers of "Lance" tactical missiles and several thousand guns of atomic artillery remain on the territories of the European countries. If Rogers is to be believed, the USA keeps in Europe 4,600 units of nuclear ammunition for the available means of delivery, F. Gontar noted. The American general also prefers to keep silent about the fact that more than 300 planes, nuclear delivery vehicles, are based on the aircraft carriers of the U.S. Sixth and Second Fleets sailing near the European coasts, and that submarines and surface ships of those fleets carry nuclear-armed cruise missiles capable of reaching the territory of the Soviet Union and other Warsaw-Treaty countries. Besides that, several hundred warheads of "Poseidon" missiles with a range of up to 4.5 thousand kilometres are intended not to be counted in the armaments of the U.S. missile carrying submarine fleet patrolling the North Atlantic.

Declaring against the Soviet-American agreement on the elimination of the two classes of nuclear missiles, Rogers pretends that over 170 sea-based and land-based ballistic missiles (more than 500 nuclear warheads) of Britain and France targeted on Warsaw-Treaty countries do not exist in Western Europe.

In order to compensate for the loss of the U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe, Rogers suggests intensive measures to replace in West European NATO countries "Lance" tactical missiles with the maximum range of 128 kilometres, that become outdated, with new missiles of a longer range that could hit targets at a range of over 240 kilometres.

Rogers also declares in favour of supplementing the fleet of strike tactical aviation of NATO countries with new perfected planes, delivery vehicles, and to equip them with "air-to-ground" missiles capable of dealing nuclear strikes at targets situated within a range of no less than 240 kilometres, without getting into the zone of the operation of the enemy anti-aircraft defences. There are reports, the Soviet expert said, that as a "compensatory measure" the U.S. Department of Defence intends to install on surface ships and submarines of the U.S. Sixth and Second fleets an additional number of nuclear cruise missiles capable of hitting targets on the territory of the European part of the USSR and its allies.

Insisting on the further build-up of the U.S. nuclear potential in Europe, Rogers at the same time demands from the U.S. West European allies the increase of the expenditures on the modernization of conventional armaments, banking mainly on their qualitative renewal and large scale equipment of general-purpose armed forces with new high-precision long-range conventional weapons and systems, which would approach tactical nuclear weapons for their strike capacity. The Pentagon and the NATO leaders continue seeking to tip the military balance in Europe in their favour, to get advantage over the Warsaw-Treaty organizations in the area of conventional armaments, the Soviet expert said.

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: REPORTAGE ON SHULTZ-SHEVARNADZE MEETING

Confirmed by Gerasimov

LD201224 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 20 Nov 87

[Text] In an interview for Radio Moscow, a representative of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Gennadiy Gerasimov, has confirmed that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and America's Secretary of State George Shultz will meet in Geneva on Monday and Tuesday. This is to complete work on the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles and also to discuss questions connected with the preparing an official visit of the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachev, to the United States next month.

Glazunov Previews Meeting

LD201445 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 20 Nov 87

[Viktor Glazunov Commentary]

[Text] It's been announced that the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, and the United States secretary of state, George Shultz, will have another meeting in Geneva next week. Our Political Observer Viktor Glazunov makes this comment, and here is what he writes:

The Soviet-American dialogue has become unusually dynamic. This will be the fourth meeting of the two ministers in the past (?4) months and that shows the earnest intentions of the two sides to reach understanding, which is not so easy to do. The fresh dialogue of the two ministers is linked directly with the preparations for the Soviet-American summit in Washington in December. At that summit a treaty is to be signed abolishing two classes of nuclear missiles, of medium and shorter range. Further milestones are to be also outlined along the path toward nuclear disarmament. The two leaders will discuss reducing by half the basic class of nuclear armaments, strategic missiles, within the context of observing the anti-ballistic missile or ABM Treaty.

The priorities are grand and require big efforts. At the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms Soviet and American experts have lately been working overtime, but successfully as everything seems to indicate. At their meeting, also in Geneva, the Soviet foreign minister and the United States secretary of state are to complete work on the treaty to scrap medium- and shorter-range missiles as well as to discuss issues related to preparations for the official visit by Mikhail Gorbachev to the United States.

Seen as an image, the path from Moscow to Washington lies through Geneva. The two ministers are to give the green light at the Geneva stopover and there are clear signs that light will be given and another Soviet-American summit will take place. There is every reason to hope that at the summit a breakthrough will be made on disarmament. It's true, though, that the first treaty to be signed provides for eliminating only 4% of nuclear arsenals, but that must become the beginning of a peaceful chain reaction. The Washington summit should take care of further progress on a larger scale along the path of nuclear disarmament. To lay the foundation for drafting another treaty, about reducing the strategic armaments by half with no arms to be put into outer space, is the idea of the talks, so that this new treaty can be signed at another Soviet-American summit in Moscow.

Arrivals Expected 22 Nov

LD220743 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 22 Nov 87

[Text] USSR Foreign Minister Comrade Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz are expected to arrive in Geneva today. They will hold meetings there on 23 and 24 November to complete work on a treaty on medium-range and shorter-range missiles. They will also discuss matters connected with preparations for Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's official visit to the United States.

Shevardnadze Departs

LD221502 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 22 Nov 87

[Text] Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, left Moscow today for Geneva where he will meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

At the airport he was seen off by Comrade Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by other officials.

Arrival Statement Noted

LD221850 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1750 GMT 22 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva, 22 Nov (TASS)—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, arrived here today from Moscow. By mutual accord he is to meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz with the aim of completing work on a treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles, as well as to discuss the issues linked to preparing the official visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the United States next month.

On arrival in Geneva, Eduard Shevardnadze made the following statement: Today, on the threshold of a new Soviet-U.S. summit, we recall with satisfaction that Geneva was the location for the first meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

It became a significant milestone on the road to normalization and alignment of relations between the USSR and the United States and provided a start for a broad and constructive political dialogue.

The sources of the Soviet-U.S. accord on medium- and shorter-range missiles also appeared in Geneva.

We see a good omen in the fact that the concluding, and thus the most crucial, talks linked to preparing Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the United States are taking place in Geneva.

The Soviet delegation has arrived here in the firm confidence that during the talks with the U.S. delegation, headed by Shultz, the secretary of state, all questions concerning the final working out of an agreement on eliminating medium- and shorter-range nuclear means will be resolved. We will certainly arrive at major, without any exaggeration, historic results. The time is near when no nuclear missiles of the two classes will remain in Europe and throughout the world.

We are approaching the upcoming talks in an exceptionally responsible way and we are counting upon constructive cooperation from our U.S. partners.

The spirit of Geneva inspires us.

I would like to express to the government of Switzerland and to the cantonal and city authorities of Geneva our gratitude for the hospitality and for the creation of excellent conditions for the Soviet-U.S. talks.

I wish peace and prosperity to the inhabitants of Geneva and to all citizens of Switzerland.

Shultz on Progress of Talks

LD222242 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2212 GMT 22 Nov 87

[Text] Washington, 23 Nov (TASS)—The work on the Soviet-U.S. treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles has been "practically completed," George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, told journalists on the way to Geneva where he will meet Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs, to complete the drawing up of the treaty on medium-range missiles and also to examine questions connected with the preparation of the official visit to the United States by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

As Shultz stressed, "an agreement has been reached on all basic elements," and it remains only to agree on "some working details" of the future agreement.

The secretary of state noted that all problems connected with procedures for verifying [kontrol] the observance of a treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles have in effect been resolved. "We practically have good monitoring [proverka] procedures in hand," he stated.

According to Shultz, the verification [kontrol] procedures discussed in the course of the talks on medium-range missiles will serve as a starting-point in the discussion of the Soviet-U.S. agreement on reducing the arsenals of strategic offensive weapons by 50%. The head of the U.S. foreign policy department expressed the opinion that such an agreement could be reached and ratified as early as next year.

White House Chief of Staff Howard Baker, speaking on an ABC television program on Sunday, expressed the conviction that all remaining issues concerning a treaty on scrapping medium- and shorter-range weapons will be resolved at the meeting of the Soviet and U.S. ministers of foreign affairs in Geneva. He stated, however, that the Washington administration "may well" refuse to sign this agreement at the forthcoming summit meeting in Washington in December if all the details connected with the monitoring [proverka] measures have not been worked out fully. But "I do not think this will happen," Baker added.

Shultz Arrival Statement

LD222341 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2310 GMT 22 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva, 23 Nov (TASS)—U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz arrived here today. In a statement at the airport he said that it is not the first time Geneva has been the setting for important meetings between U.S. and USSR statesmen. The most important was the summit between President Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Prior to this the ministers of foreign affairs of both countries met here too, in January, 1985, which was the start of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons.

This time, said the U.S. secretary of state, I have come to the meeting with Minister Eduard Shevardnadze with the aim of completing work on the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles, which is almost ready, and to discuss other issues that will figure in the summit between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev in Washington in 2 weeks. According to Shultz, the U.S. delegation intends to work seriously to guarantee the success of this and subsequent meetings.

Opening of Talks Reported

LD230949 Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 23 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva November 23 TASS--Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz began talks here today.

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CSO: 52001027

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: FURTHER ON SHULTZ-SHEVARDNADZE TALKS, ACCORD

Shultz-Shevardnadze Talks

LD241526 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1506 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva, 24 Nov (TASS)—Talks between Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz continued this morning and this afternoon.

The sides conducted a businesslike and useful discussion of matters connected with completing work on a treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles and preparations for the official visit by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee to the United States next month.

The working groups set up to prepare the compromise options which would open up the possibility of working out mutually acceptable accords on unresolved matters, have been active.

Issues Solved, Treaty 'Ready'

LD241813 Moscow TASS in English 1805 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva November 24 TASS—Talks between the USSR minister of foreign affairs Eduard Shevardnadze and the secretary of state of the United States George Shultz ended here today.

The sides resolved the remaining outstanding questions concerning the draft treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles.

It can now be said with confidence that this extremely important document is ready and will be signed by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and the President of the United States Ronald Reagan during their summit meeting in Washington in December.

Questions related to the programme and organisation of this meeting were also studied.

Talks' Results Praised

LD242002 Moscow World Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] In Geneva the Soviet foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze and his American counterpart George Shultz, have said that they have finalized the work on a treaty on eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range missiles.

Upon completing the talks to prepare Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to the United States next month, Shevardnadze and Shultz praised their results. What we've done, the Soviet minister said, is in the interests of all nations. He expressed the hope that the signing of the treaty on two classes of missiles would open the possibility for a new step in nuclear disarmament.

Shevardnadze News Conference

LD251007 Moscow TASS in English 1005 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva November 25 TASS—Following two days of Soviet-American talks in Geneva Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the U.S.S.R., summed up their results at a news conference here on November 24.

He made the following statement:

You know already—for the press, there are no secrets—that the U.S.S.R.-U.S. peace diplomacy marathon is over. I would like to say right away that the guideposts, the route of the marathon have been fixed precisely here, in Geneva, and in Reykjavik, and it is not for nothing, not without reason that we regard the Reykjavik summit meeting as an intellectual breakthrough in Soviet-American relations.

I dare think that the progress made satisfied everyone—us, our American partners, our allies and the world public at large. If we continue to use the figure of speech, we should say that the last hurdles in the way to the Washington summit have been removed. Yesterday and today our delegations were able to clear away the remaining several difficult problems, after which an agreed draft treaty for completely eliminating intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles has become an accomplished fact.

We are now stopping the Geneva clock that has been ticking away the months and years of the hard and complicated talks on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles and starting up the clock of preparations for Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with President Reagan, putting it on to Washington time.

In the run up to the Washington meeting time is acquiring a new dimension and a new meaning. It is a time when our hopes are beginning to be fulfilled. Despite the winter outside, we would like to think that a political thaw is beginning in relations between the Soviet Union and the United States that can alter the political climate on our planet.

The significance of the Washington meeting is vast. Its centerpiece will be an agreement that we shall turn over for approval and signature to the top leaders of our countries.

What are its distinguishing features?

This is the first major agreement in the field of real disarmament between the USSR and the United States in eight years.

While formally being a Soviet-American one, this is also the first agreement that has a truly international nature as nuclear weapons will be removed from the territories of nine countries.

This is the first agreement to reaffirm the unity and integrity of the modern world through the elimination of nuclear weapons.

This is the first agreement for physically destroying two classes of nuclear arms not because they are physically or morally obsolete, but because they are too dangerous to mankind.

This is the first agreement incorporating the idea of comprehensive monitoring and verification, under which states have consciously forgone, in the name of common good and common interests, part of their sovereign rights and allowed inspectors into their territories.

This is, finally, the first agreement affirming the feasibility and possibility of a nuclear-free and more secure world.

On top of this, the treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles means clearing a seemingly insurmountable psychological barrier in relations between two nuclear powers and attaining a drastically new level of cooperation in fulfilling the more important tasks of significance to all mankind.

This treaty is a result of a breakthrough in thinking, of a long and exhausting work by large collectives. It is only people believing in the rightness of the cause to which they have contributed so generously that could have accomplished this great project.

We ought to thank today all those who facilitated the creation of a world atmosphere in which it was possible to start the elimination of nuclear weapons.

I would like to point to the endorsement in the treaty of the concept of equality and reciprocity in the most sensitive area of international relations—in the sphere of security.

The agreement has come off because each side displayed readiness to take into account the interests of the other side and find compromise in the balance of its own interests and the interests of the other side.

This applies to the verification regime as well. We saw the triumph of the principle which we had upheld since the very start of the negotiations, the principle that neither side should obtain benefits, unilateral advantages at the other side's expense. If difficulties did arise in the elaboration of verification and inspection procedures, they were due to attempts to settle issues on the basis other than that of equality and reciprocity.

The negotiations graphically showed that the Soviet Union was ready to go as far in building confidence with the use of reliable verification measures as the other side would be prepared to go. In practice, we stood for comprehensive and radical verification measures. That was our vital interest.

Some are eagerly talking now about our concessions, seeking to distort the picture and filling in an author's certificate on verification measures in their name. Elementary justice prescribes recognition of one's own, reciprocal concessions as well. We shall lodge no protest on this account. But we'll note: The patent belongs to both countries. Here in Geneva each side covered its half of the road, and the mutual concessions combined produced brilliant results.

One more thing: Breaking once again through the voices of approval is a question that better fits a sports fan, rather than a politician: "Who has won?" Arithmetic is being summoned to witness: "The USSR will destroy four of its warheads for each U.S. warhead."

Yes, that's true: We are to eliminate more warheads. But the point at issue should be not the balance of forces, but the balance of interests. This has been fully observed. The interests of the Soviet Union and our allies have not been damaged. The interests of the United States have not been damaged either. On the final account, peace has triumphed.

Over the past two days we discussed questions related to the programme of the December summit meeting. The discussion was constructive—precisely this style has lately characterized our talks with the U.S. secretary of state. The chief priority here are success of the business part of the visit by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev to the United States, signing of the agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles and modelling of conditions that might facilitate new major accords during President Reagan's return visit to Moscow. I will say in brief that the planning of the summit meeting was successful.

We are to carry out immense work—to prepare an agreement on deep cuts in strategic offensive arms (1 50-per cent reduction is meant) [as received]. Mikhail Gorbachev described this issue as a vital problem of our times in the conditions of preserving the ABM Treaty. We are inspired by the fact that in drafting the INF agreement we gained vast experience. The experience of arduous and intricate work. We have agreed today that we will use this valuable experience in the future.

Of course, we did not limit ourselves at the Geneva talks only to problems connected with the preparation of the INF agreement. We also considered issues related to regional conflicts, human rights, humanitarian cooperation and bilateral relations. Their review was conducted in the light of the future Washington meeting—the implication being that the issues will be discussed in Washington in greater detail and substance by our top leaders.

I want to congratulate you cordially on that historic event, for I believe that evidently not a single person on this planet can remain indifferent when the case in point is the abolition of the nuclear arsenals, and the first and very important step has been made along that difficult road.

I would like to express gratitude to the leaders of Switzerland and the Swiss people who always offer us hospitality and create very good conditions for fruitful work.

Eduard Shevardnadze then answered questions asked by media people:

Question: What is meant by strategic stability and what progress has been achieved on that issue?

Answer: As far as strategic stability is concerned, I said in Washington that we, two great powers, should maintain strategic parity and observe the ABM Treaty which is the guarantee of such strategic stability. We are attaching supreme significance to the ABM Treaty.

Question: How do you assess the contribution of the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia to the making of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles?

Answer: Let me put it straight—if it hadn't been for the support of our allies—the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia—there would have been no treaty. The same should be said, for the sake of justice, about U.S. allies, specifically the Federal Republic of Germany.

Question: What provisions have been included into the treaty concerning inspections on challenge?

Answer: The draft treaty comprises all principal provisions which guarantee its observance in full, including provisions for data check-up inspections—the exchange of such data is about to be completed—inspections of the fact of elimination and inspection on suspicion. Generally speaking, every type of inspection possible is present in the agreement. Add to all this the possibility for our countries to observe and verify the state of affairs from space, that is, by national technical means, as we say, Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, first deputy minister of defense of the USSR, who is present here, can confirm that there is not a single outstanding issue as far as inspections are concerned.

Akhromeyev: We raised questions concerning inspections more often than our partners did.

Shevardnadze: But made decisions together.

Question: What can you say about the way the treaty meets the Soviet demand for visits to bases in NATO countries over a period of ten years after the missiles will have been eliminated?

Answer: There is an accord between the USSR and the U.S. under which both sides are responsible for the observance of the terms of the treaty and, in parallel, we have reached an understanding on the exchange of notes between the Soviet Union and the Governments of the U.S. and German Democratic Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. This means that the interests of exercising comprehensive verification and, at the same time, everything that regards the sovereign rights of those states have been taken care of.

Question: What are chances for a treaty on the strategic offensive arms being signed next year?

Answer: There exist such chances and they are not bad.

Question: What difficulties remain in the work on that treaty?

Answer: A very large amount of work still remains to be done but, taking account of the experience accumulated, that work can be carried through given the mutual desire. In fact, the work is already in progress on the draft joint document. Although it is true that for the time being it contains more brackets than agreed wordings.

Question: When, in your opinion, will President Reagan make a return visit to Moscow?

Answer: This is up to Mr. Reagan, but considering the election campaign, this visit should not be postponed. It is likely to take place in the first half of the next year. It will be too late after that. The more so, since there are problems of the ratification of the future treaty.

Question: How was the issue of inspection on suspicion resolved?

Answer (S. Akhromeyev): If we do not go into detail and do not use the diplomatic language but try to make things plainly understood, it's as follows: Over 13 years following the treaty ratification the parties can make claims to each other for carrying out an inspection on suspicion and the party to be checked is committed to meet the request of the party which asked for the inspection.

Definite quotas have been set for the first three years, for subsequent five years and another five years after that. This means that a credible system of verification of the treaty's observance has been established.

Shevardnadze: Well, the Soviet and American military are in for some merry life before the end of the current century.

Akhromeyev: We are ready for it in the name of stronger peace.

Question: What is your attitude to Shamir's proposal for holding direct talks between Israel and the Arabs under the auspices of the two great powers—the USSR and the U.S.?

Answer: You should be aware of our stand. We favor an international conference on the entire range of Middle East problems. I believe that this is the only correct approach. This view is shared by all permanent members of the Security Council, by the Arab states. There is no doubt that contacts and bilateral talks are possible in the framework of that conference. In principle, as far as I know, the minister of foreign affairs of Israel shares this viewpoint. But I cannot guarantee that he will be able to reach agreement with the prime minister.

Question: Did the Soviet military find it difficult to give up such a number of warheads?

Answer (S. Akhromeyev): The importance of the treaty does not boil down to the number of warheads alone. Its importance even from the military viewpoint includes both a political and a moral aspect. That the treaty was difficult to work out will be seen from the fact that we opened negotiations with the U.S. in 1981 and are ending them in late 1987. What was required was not only giving up a certain number of warheads: Very much had to be reconsidered in relations between states, in what military power and mutual relations between states meant in the present-day world. All this took almost seven years. It was difficult for us but, I believe, it wasn't any easier for our partners to work on that treaty and prepare it.

Shevardnadze: We have only several months on drafting an agreement on strategic offensive weapons.

Question: What place will the SDI take in future negotiations?

Answer: We are dead against any attempts to militarize space. It must be preserved peaceful. The ABM Treaty is the best guarantee of this. Therefore, we uphold principles of this treaty.

Question: How did you come to agreement on inspection of production sites of missiles in the USA and the USSR?

Answer: We have reached full mutual understanding on this question, taking into account mutual interests and interests of control. The list of agreed facilities will be published after the signing of the treaty.

Question: Do you expect any difficulties with the treaty's ratification of the U.S. Senate?

Answer: Judging by pronouncements of some senators, there will be difficulties. But, in the opinion of specialists well versed in the conditions of the Senate's operation and balance of forces, the needed majority is for ratification. I do not think that something unpredictable will happen. It is not accidental that I said about the fact that the treaty conforms to the interests of America, the Soviet Union and the entire world. As far as we know, public opinion in the United States is shaping up in favour of the treaty.

Shultz on Ratification

LD242242 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2206 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva, 25 Nov (TASS)—U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz described the draft treaty reached with the USSR on medium- and shorter-range missiles as "an important first step," "a good beginning." "Let the critics prove why, in their opinion, it is necessary to have more nuclear armaments and not fewer," the secretary of state said during a news conference held this evening at the conclusion of 2 days of talks with USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. George Shultz expressed confidence that the U.S. Government would get the Senate to ratify the treaty. He also dwelt on certain details of the treaty.

Shevardnadze Departs Geneva

LD242111 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2053 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva, 24 Nov—USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze left here for Moscow today. Over the last 2 days he met here with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in order to complete the work on a treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles and also for a discussion on matters connected with preparations for the official visit to the United States next month by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Arrives, Met by Yakovlev

LD250035 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0022 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow, 25 Nov (TASS)—Today Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, returned to Moscow from Geneva where he had met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The minister was met at the airport by Aleksandr Yakovlev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and by other officials.

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PRAVDA POLLS U.S. SENATORS ON INF TREATY

PM201233 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Nov 87 Second Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan and TASS correspondent I. Ignatyev article: "Duty to History. U.S. Senators' Opinions on the Agreement on Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles"]

[Text] Washington, Nov.—It would be no exaggeration to say that nowadays the U.S. capital is living in expectation of a major international event—the signing of the Soviet-U.S. agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles. This is a constant topic on newspaper pages and television screens. Correspondents are interviewing leading specialists in the disarmament sphere. Numerous commentaries are published, at times offering a profound and serious analysis of the problem, at other times containing propaganda attacks against the expected agreement.

It would, of course, be a mistake to paint a picture of the present moods in U.S. political circles using only roseate hues. No, attitudes toward the forthcoming agreement here are ambiguous. The very history of international relations, especially over the last few years, forces observers to be cautious and restrained in their forecasts, bearing in mind primarily the obvious fact that there are very many powerful opponents of disarmament on this side of the ocean. Their names and positions are well known. Even they themselves deem it unnecessary to conceal their negative attitude toward the accord reached between U.S. and USSR leaders regarding the agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles. Not only do they not conceal it, but they are also making considerable efforts to thwart the signing of this agreement at the last moment.

But what is the atmosphere on Washington's Capitol Hill? It is here, in the U.S. Congress and its upper house, that the U.S. side's last word on the agreement's fate will be said. Under the U.S. Constitution, the upper house of Congress is empowered to approve or reject international agreements signed by the President. The ratification of any treaty requires support from at least 67 senators (two-thirds of the total of 100). Just 34 votes are sufficient for failure.

While speaking optimistically about the present prospects of ratification, local political commentators do not fully guarantee it. Why? In an attempt to obtain an explanation, we addressed senators and their advisers. This poll produced replies from 86 of the 100 members of the upper house of Congress or from their official spokesmen. Some either refused to answer or gave evasive replies.

Let us jump ahead for a moment and talk about the main conclusion to be drawn from the answers we received: On the whole, the agreement enjoys considerable support on Capitol Hill and, to all appearances, has a good chance of being ratified. Nonetheless, the administration will not find it all that easy to secure ratification. It can be assumed that the Senate debate will take some considerable time and will be marked by sharp clashes of views.

This is indicated by the mood of the Senate leadership. Democratic Majority Leader R. Byrd, having declared in particular that this agreement would "lead to the global elimination of an entire class of nuclear weapons—something hitherto unknown in the history of arms control," nonetheless said: "Prior to consenting to ratification, many senators, including myself, would like to be convinced of the proper solution to questions like monitoring, support from the NATO allies, the treaty's consequences for our military policy in Europe, and the linkage between these problems and progress in other spheres of the Geneva arms control talks." In any case, Byrd "warned," the Senate has no intention of "rubber-stamping" the agreement.

A similar assessment was provided by Republican leader R. Dole. "I do not believe," he declared, "that the agreement will be submitted for discussion by the full Senate at the very beginning of next year. This will be preceded by very lengthy hearings in committee. I agree in principle with the President that this is a good treaty. But some questions are inevitable, including monitoring conditions."

Democratic deputy leader A. Cranston believes that "problems could arise" during the debate: "It is very important to take this step in the direction of curbing the arms race. In all likelihood, however, some 15-20 extreme conservative Republicans in the Senate would challenge the treaty directly. In my opinion, there are also some who, while refraining from direct attacks and on the pretext of improving the agreement, could propose various conditions and amendments which would in essence signify its death."

Touching on the "potentially serious problems of ratification," Republican R. Lugar, former chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, noted: "There are a number of senators, both Republicans and Democrats, who are against any accord with the USSR. I am inclined to support this agreement but, like others, I would like to see the final text. On the whole, however, I believe that this is good for the United States."

The stance taken by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee—the first stage in the process of examining the agreement—is of key importance. Committee Chairman Democrat C. Pell declared: "The task of those who support the agreement is to prove that its implementation is monitorable and that it is a good treaty corresponding with USSR and U.S. interests. I will firmly back its ratification." An equally important role will be played by the approach of the Senate Armed Services Committee headed by the Democrat S. Nunn, who is considered to hold conservative views. His office told us that the senator views the agreement as "a positive step toward arms reduction." But they went on to add: "The agreement must be viewed in a broader context because of the existing imbalance in conventional arms in Europe."

There was enthusiastic response to the accord that is being elaborated from Senators B. Adams, L. Bentsen, D. Bumpers, B. Bradley, K. Conrad, P. Leahy, G. Mitchell, P. Simon, and a number of others. Senator T. Harkin, for example, declared: "I welcome the first step toward a sensible nuclear policy. The present administration has wasted many opportunities to reduce nuclear arsenals. It refused to halt the buildup of first-strike weapons or to accept the offer from the Soviet Union in refraining from nuclear tests for 18 months. I hope that the agreement now being prepared will be the beginning of the curbing of the arms race." According to D. Boren, he feels optimistic about the conclusion of an agreement

on medium-range missiles and would like to believe that it "will provide a basis for improving and strengthening relations between our two countries."

The accord on medium-range missiles was described as "a major positive development at the arms control talks" by Senator C. Bond: "This is the first time," he said, "that the USSR and the United States have found themselves in a position to progress toward real reduction of nuclear arsenals. Even though the agreement affects only a small percentage of the total number of warheads owned by the two sides, it is an important first step toward the achievement of much greater progress in the future."

We have already mentioned that 14 senators did not reply to our poll. Of those who did express their opinion, 31 senators supported the agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles. Only three bluntly declared a categorical rejection of the agreement. "The agreement could have a destabilizing effect in Europe," Senator C. Hecht declared, "where the Soviet bloc has a fivefold superiority in conventional arms." He was seconded by Senator J. Helms: "Bearing in mind the Soviets' record on treaty violations, we must assume that they would seek any opportunity to violate this agreement as well." "It is dangerous to conclude an agreement with the Soviets owing to their nonobservance of treaties," Senator S. Symms believes. "For agreements to be effective, the Soviets must renounce Marxism and their goal of attaining world domination."

The largest block of legislators which, to judge by everything, will have a decisive influence on the outcome of the ratification process, is made up of those who have either not yet determined their final stance or are "in favor," but subject to substantial reservations. According to our calculations, there are at least 34 senators in this category. "Senator Packwood is refraining from opposing or supporting the agreement until such time as he has accurate knowledge of its provisions," we were told, for example, by a spokesman for the legislator from Oregon. "In view of the importance of the question, the senator would first like to study the final document before making up his mind," one of Senator T. Cochran's aides noted.

The elaboration of the agreement is in its final stage. It is obvious to many people here that it will become the first stone to be laid in the foundations of measures to terminate the nuclear arms race and primarily to reduce strategic offensive weapons by 50% in conditions in which the ABM Treaty is maintained. But something else is also clear: A refusal by the Senate to ratify the agreement would mean wrecking the entire process of arms control, which has been given a powerful fillip now. To prevent this from happening and to justify the hopes of the peoples, who are tired of the nuclear nightmare, would mean living up to history's demands.

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: SUMMIT, POTENTIAL 'RADICAL IMPROVEMENT' NOTED

LD241342 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Nikolay Shishlin Commentary]

[Text] [Announcer] We present a talk by Political Observer Nikolay Shishlin on the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. summit. At the microphone is the author.

[Shishlin] Of course the liveliest topic in international affairs at the moment is the forthcoming summit, the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Washington. I would immediately like to draw attention to the fact that numerous commentaries on the forthcoming event in a strange way for some reason or another lose sight of the question of where the meeting will be taking place. To be sure the last meeting on either Soviet or U.S. soil between leaders of the two largest states in the world took place 13 years ago. I am talking about the meeting in Vladivostok. Indeed, the fact that this time the meeting is taking place in Washington on U.S. soil indicates the distance covered since November 1985 when Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev met Ronald Reagan for the first time in Geneva, Switzerland.

Probably even more distance could have been covered. Be that as it may, the distance that has been covered is considerable, not so much from the viewpoint of political distance but from the viewpoint of the results that we expect this new summit dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States to produce. Indeed the fact that right now the last periods and commas are being put on a possible agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles in itself really opens up a new page in the long history of difficult talks on limiting and reducing the arms race. For the first time strict, tough verification [kontrol] measures are being provided in accordance with the decision to eliminate these classes of weapons.

In essence, for the first time a step is being taken to really lower the levels of military stability [as heard] and thus the prospect is opened up for breakthroughs in other areas of this sensitive area of limiting and reducing the arms race.

It is thought that the Washington meeting will make it possible to concentrate attention on the key problem of disarmament, namely, profound, 50% cuts in strategic offensive weapons with obligatory strengthening of the conditions of the ABM Treaty. But it is true the thought might immediately arise: Surely there are great difficulties in formulating such an agreement. One can agree with that, but nonetheless I would like to draw attention to the fact that there is a common understanding between the Soviet Union and the United States that a 50% reduction is an immediate aim regarding strategic offensive weapons.

There is also a common understanding that the conditions of the ABM Treaty must be strengthened. But regarding the period during which the sides will pledge voluntary nonwithdrawal from this treaty is, in the final analysis, not so important.

Indeed there is also the Geneva statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and the President of the United States, which says clearly that the task is to prevent the militarization of space, not to transfer the arms race into space, and to end it on earth.

So why can we not concentrate now on interpreting this formula of not transferring the arms race into space, which would of course open up the possibility of outlining the bounds of what is permitted and what is not permitted in this area, and thus of reaching a comprehensive compromise envisioning both a 50% reduction in strategic offensive weapons and simultaneous strengthening of the conditions of the ABM Treaty.

I would like to point out that the United States has an interest in this, as does the Soviet Union. The United States should be well aware, and should keep in mind, that the Soviet strategic forces are fully capable of

reaching the territory of the United States, while the classes of weapons that will probably be eliminated now are not, properly speaking, capable of reaching U.S. territory. The compilation of a sort of mandate for the delegations that will conduct the negotiations on strategic offensive weapons, a mandate charging them to press ahead with these negotiations, could make it possible that the U.S. President's visit to the Soviet Union next year could result in the President bringing with him solid [solidnyy] baggage—drawn up, of course, with the participation of Soviet representatives in the negotiations that are being conducted in Geneva, and which will, of course, be continued.

There is no doubt that discussions will be continued in Washington on other aspects of disarmament problems, including the elimination of chemical weapons. This, I think, is a very promising and vitally important direction, and in essence, the contours of the agreement—indeed, more than the contours, it seems to me that this agreement is already 90-95% ready. It needs only political will and additional efforts for the elimination of chemical weapons to become a fact, to become reality.

I assume that the Washington discussions will enable progress to be made on reducing so-called conventional weapons, too; these are, incidentally, generally described as conventional, but in fact they have very great destructive capabilities, and are extremely expensive. Progress in this direction has so far been very sluggish, unfortunately, if there has been any at all. But in itself the asymmetry, given a certain balance of forces between the Warsaw Pact and NATO, offers the opportunity quite simply of cutting off all these asymmetries and aligning the levels of various classes of weapons, in order to maintain the balance, but at a far lower level. Appropriate proposals on this account have already been put forward by the Soviet Union and other members of the Warsaw Pact.

The agenda for the Soviet-U.S. meeting will undoubtedly be rich, tightly packed, and varied. The leaders of the two countries will of course be able to exchange opinions on all aspects of the current world situation, including regional conflicts. Also extremely important, they will be able to have a well-grounded [sostoyatelnyy] discussion about the state of Soviet-U.S. relations and the opportunities for improving them. Here, naturally, one-sided efforts are quite fruitless; here mutual efforts alone are what is needed, mutual readiness to move toward improving relations. Then it will emerge that both in politics and in the economic and spiritual spheres, and also in the sphere of human contacts, there really is unlimited scope for cooperation between our country and the United States—cooperation that not only does not exclude competition, but includes a compulsory element of competition between our socialist country and the United States, a bourgeois country.

We shall not now hazard a guess as to how the summit meeting will end, but I think it is a very big step, a very serious step along the way toward affirming the new political thinking, toward transferring the new political thinking into practical steps, into practical deeds aimed at bringing about a radical improvement in international relations, including Soviet-U.S. relations.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: NATO PRESSURES ALLIES ON MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

PM251221 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Nov 87 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent Yu. Kharlanov dispatch: "No One Indifferent"]

[Excerpt] Brussels, November—[Passage omitted] It is possible to say that the broadest public circles in the Netherlands and Belgium are now unanimous on the question of eliminating cruise missiles. This has to be taken into account by the governments of both countries, which have supported the conclusion of a U.S.-USSR agreement in their official statements. At the same time, however, fierce pressure is also being put on them.

At the recent session of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group in the Californian city of Monterey this pressure was exerted on the countries directly affected by the problems of "Euromissiles" in several areas. First, "hawks" demanded that the states taking delivery of medium-range missiles observe their placement schedule even after the U.S.-USSR agreement is concluded and right up to its ratification and validation. Belgian Defense Minister F. X. de Donnea disagreed with that demand, declaring that the delivery of new missiles to Florennes will be stopped right after the agreement is signed. He was supported by Netherlands Defense Minister W. van Eekelen, who demanded that the question of the cruise missile placement schedule be discussed once again in NATO organs.

The second alarm signal to issue from Monterey was the report that an experts' report was submitted for discussion by the defense ministers gathered there. It envisages the deployment of new ground-, sea-, and air-based nuclear means in West European countries and the adjacent seas after the agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles is signed, so that, after the "Euromissiles" have been eliminated, the NATO armies will

have not only not reduced but have even increased this overall nuclear potential. As U.S. General J. Galvin, supreme commander in chief, NATO Armed Forces, Europe, declared, the United States' European allies must not only join in a new round of the "nuclear deterrence" policy, but also cover the costs arising out of this. He also added that the NATO armies will step up the conventional arms race to "compensate" for the elimination of two classes of missiles.

The peace-loving public of Belgium and the Netherlands is seriously alarmed at the NATO plans. "We are obliged to prevent their implementation," Mario Gotto, secretary of the Belgian Christian Workers' Movement, said. "The signing of the 'Euromissiles' agreement will not mean the end of our struggle. On the contrary, the antiwar movements struggling for nuclear missile disarmament must redouble their efforts."

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CSO: 52001027

USSR: KORNILOV DISCUSSES U.S. REACTION TO TREATY

LD241846 Moscow TASS in English 1811 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—By TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov:

If there had existed a barometer to determine the political climate on the planet, the world would have seen its hand gradually moving today from the point "overcast". There are grounds to believe so as the protracted process of Soviet-U.S. talks on disarmament problems looks likely to produce at long last the long-awaited results—the agreement to eliminate American and Soviet medium- and shorter-range missiles. The road to this agreement passed through the summit meeting in Geneva, where after heated discussions the sides agreed that winning the nuclear war was impossible. It also passed through Reykjavik bringing in an intellectual breakthrough in all areas of disarmament.

Prominent political and public leaders, the public of different countries, including the USA, welcomes the opening possibility of eliminating two classes of deadly nuclear weapons. Such turn of events, however, invokes quite a different, completely opposite reaction among militarists. The closer draws the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, the more sophisticated become the proponents of the arms race and adherents of imperialist policy of strength in their attempts to uphold their positions and exacerbate the situation.

This is evidenced, among other things, by statements of those NATO leaders who time and again hold forth on the urgent need to "rearm" Western Europe by deploying on the territory of a number of NATO countries new armaments with nuclear warheads in view of the reduction of medium-range missiles. One is certain to be on his guard when he hears the voices of such ultra conservatives as Senators Helms and Symms from Washington who are trying to call in question the expediency of the ratification by the Congress of the treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles. At times they go as far as alleging, like Symms did for example, that to make Soviet-U.S. agreements really effective the Soviets must do nothing less than to repudiate Marxism. The world public is convinced that the agreement involves dismantling a certain class of nuclear weapons that threatens the world and the security of peoples. The

inveterate anticommunists and "hawks" are still nurturing wild dreams about...the "dismantling" of the Soviet political system.

An atmosphere of "antidetente", which is being artificially fostered by certain circles in the USA, gives rise to all manner of militarist "committees" and "groups", which spring up like so many poisonous plants on a marsh engaging in blowing out the hackneyed fabrications about the mythical "Soviet threat" and the "aggressiveness of Moscow". One of the concrete examples is the so-called Stop the Treaty Committee in the USA, whose members send out a certain appeal threatening the man in the street with the tragic consequences allegedly posed to the West by the alimination of medium-range missiles. Does not the position of certain Western organs of "free press", primarily American ones, look strange when they willingly offer their pages for such militaristic exercises and all manner of ill-intentioned fabrications instead of of forming a business-like and constructive positive atmosphere on the eve of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting?

In his day Winston Churchill, speaking about the dangers of atomic age, noted that science could bring stone age to the earth. Many years later these words by the British politician were repeated during a conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev by former U.S. President Richard Nixon. Mentioning his meeting with Nixon and speaking about the Soviet-U.S. relations, Mikhail Gorbachev in his book *Perestroyka: New Thinking for Our Country and the World* stressed that in our time mankind had no other alternative than that of peaceful coexistence and disarmament. "Honestly, it is high time the relations between the two great nations were made worthy of their historical role," he wrote. Will a really major step be made in this direction in Washington? The answer will be given already in the nearest future. As for the Soviet Union it is ready to act in such a way as to make the age of Soviet-U.S. confrontation recede into the past as quickly as possible...

INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

USSR: FOREIGN REACTIONS TO AGREEMENT REPORTED

Mongolian Statement

LD242248 Moscow TASS in English 2225 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] New York November 24 TASS—Mongolia welcomes the upcoming summit meeting between the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan, at which a historic agreement on eliminating two classes of nuclear weaponry will be signed and critically important issues of disarmament discussed. Mongolian Foreign Minister Khumbagiin Olzvoi [name and title as received] said in an interview with TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev.

The signing of the treaty will signal the start of nuclear disarmament. One would like to hope that it will lead to further important agreements in the process of disarmament to be joined by all countries for the sake of mankind entering a nuclear-free age.

In this context, it is important as never before for the leaders of all countries to display a new and responsible mode of political thinking, the minister said. This outlook calls for admitting the catastrophic nature of the consequences of a nuclear war as well as a demonstration of political will and an honest preparedness to conduct talks and reach agreements on the basis of the principles of equality and equal security. The minister expressed the hope that the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting would pass exactly in this vein.

Japan 'Welcomes' Accord

LD250805 Moscow TASS in English 0725 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Tokyo November 25 TASS—The Government of Japan energetically welcomes the agreed-upon variant of the Soviet-American agreement on elimination of medium and shorter range missiles. This has been officially stated to the press by General Secretary of the Cabinet of Ministers Keizo Obuchi in Tokyo today.

He said he was sure of the success of the coming Soviet-American summit meeting. Earlier Prime Minister of Japan Noboru Takeshita qualified the attainment of the agreement in Geneva as "a very good event."

The government of Japan believes, the *Kyodo Tsushin* news agency reports, that one is witnessing consolidation of the practice of a broad Soviet-American dialogue aimed at spreading the process of disarmament from elimination of medium-and shorter-range missiles to reduction of strategic armaments. In the opinion of official circles, the news agency reports, such a development of events might lead to positive changes also in Soviet-Japanese relations.

Norwegian 'Satisfaction'

LD250815 Moscow TASS in English 0729 GMT 25 Nov 87

[Text] Oslo November 25 TASS—A report from Geneva that the Soviet Union and the USA agreed all questions pertaining to a draft treaty on elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles evokes deep satisfaction, said here Kare Willock, chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Norwegian Storting (Parliament). He said in an interview with the Norwegian news agency that unanimity reached during the meeting between the foreign ministers of the USSR and the USA was a result of prolonged negotiations in which both sides displayed considerable patience. At the same time ground was laid for further advance in disarmament.

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INTERMEDIATE-RANGE NUCLEAR FORCES

KOLESNICHENKO CITED ON STRATEGIC ARMS

LD250059 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0043 GMT 25 Nov 87

["The opinion of a PRAVDA Observer"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 25 Nov (TASS)—"Although a treaty on medium-range and operational-tactical missiles has mainly been agreed upon, the struggle over it continues," Tomas Kolesnichenko states in analyzing the situation in the United States on the eve of the summit in *Pravda* today. In his opinion, there are even more tense discussions in store over the halving of strategic offensive weapons. He writes: Are both sides ready for that? I think I would not be mistaken to say that the whole situation that has taken shape in the last few days in the United States only sets off more starkly the Soviet position—a position of realism, direct and honest dialogue, and without attempts to snatch, gain, or swindle something. To all appearances the U.S. side has still not risen to such a level, and it should. After all, it is only a matter of days until the summit.

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CSO: 52001027

CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: U.S. 'LACK OF POLITICAL WILL' DELAYS CW BAN

LD171145 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1055 GMT 17 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow, 17 Nov (TASS)—A TASS diplomatic correspondent reports:

A Soviet delegation is leaving for the United States today to visit the chemical testing ground at Tooele, Utah. It includes General Robert Razuvanov, head of the Soviet military chemical installation at Shikhany. Six weeks ago he received diplomats and military experts from 45 countries at his secret installation.

As yet no one knows whether the visit to the chemical testing ground in Utah State will be as open as the one on the right bank of the Volga. At Shikhany the USSR demonstrated its whole stock of standard chemical munitions and the mobile complex for destroying it. It is expected that the Americans will show a stationary installation for destroying chemical weapons. Both these steps are undoubtedly important ones along the road to achieving a convention on complete and universal banning of chemical weapons.

However the fundamental reason for the delay to a convention being adopted lies not in any remaining secret dumps of Soviet and U.S. chemical weapons but in the lack of political will on the part of legislators in the United States, France, and several other Western countries. That is the opinion of Colonel General Vladimir Pikalov, chief of chemical troops of the USSR Defense Ministry. There are no other objective reasons for refusing to ban one of the most barbarous types of mass destruction weaponry in the world today. In principle all key issues have now been resolved, V. Pikalov believes.

The recent speech by the U.S. representative at the UN General Assembly in which he spoke for the first time of the need to "regulate" chemical weapons cannot, against a backdrop of assurances from all participants in the talks at the Geneva Committee on Disarmament, including NATO countries, fail to draw attention to their determination to reach an accord on concluding a convention within a short period. The arguments of politicians in the United States to the effect that a ban on

chemical weapons could be replaced by their "regulation" is seen in the Soviet Union as a definite sign that attests to the U.S. side's reviewing its stance on the issue of concluding a convention on a total and universal ban on chemical weapons.

It is believed in Moscow's diplomatic circles that now, when the time has come to move from words to action, the United States evidently does not wish to abandon its binary weapons program which would not only torpedo adoption of a convention but would also raise the chemical arms race to a new and hitherto unprecedented level. The position of France also attracts attention, talking of the so-called "security reserve" that provides for the development [razrabotka] of new types of toxic substance for 10 years after a convention has been signed.

For its part, the Soviet Union has done much to ensure that the latest phase of the Geneva talks, to begin at the end of November, achieves results. The matter has come to a standstill through the destructive position of the United States, France, and, in part, Great Britain.

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CSO: 52001029

USSR: CHARGES OF USSR CW 'DECEPTION' SERVE U.S.

PM181429 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Nov 87 Morning Edition p 5

[O. Lisov article under the rubric "Apt Remarks": "Why They Are Tampering With the Facts..."]

[Text] The events occurred in the following chronological order. At the beginning of October the USSR invited members of the Geneva Disarmament Conference to the military installation at Shikhany. The guests were shown the entire arsenal of chemical ammunition and also a mobile unit for its destruction. World reaction was unanimous: The USSR had openly demonstrated its willingness—not in words but in deeds—to eliminate this type of mass destruction weapon.

A little later the West German newspaper *Welt am Sonntag* shook the world with a sensational story whose point can easily be summed up in a single sentence: Do not believe the Russians, they will deceive us all the same. The Springer concern publication reported that work at some Soviet chemical weapon depots was being secretly expanded. The source of the information: the U.S. Secret Services, not named directly, which in turn cited data obtained through satellite intelligence.

We will not go into the details as to how the Springer concern managed to gain access to top secret information from the strongholds of a foreign state's secret services (under U.S. law those found guilty of such a crime face stiff penalties). The whole point is that Soviet production of chemical weapons has been terminated, as M.S. Gorbachev officially announced to the whole world in April this year. Having extracted millions of rubles from the budget to build an installation for the destruction of chemical weapons, the Soviet Union is hardly likely to throw more millions to the winds in order to build up arsenals which it will later have to destroy under international verification.

The natural question—why this fabrication, distorting the facts and going against common sense?—can be answered with another question: Why not? Accusations of "concealment" against the USSR have coincided with the notice given to Congress by President Reagan that if an accord is not reached in Geneva by the beginning of December, he will order the mass production of binary weapons to begin. Clearly, such a step in itself will prompt a far from rapturous reaction in the world. Particularly if one considers that the elaboration of an

international convention to eliminate chemical weapons is nearing completion. It would be another matter if it could be proved that the Russians are secretly building up their chemical arsenals. If this were the case, the United States would not have to play the role of "strike-breaker" but that of a power which, albeit reluctantly, would simply have to restore the "balance" for the sake of its own security and that of the other NATO countries.

Again the same question arises: Why create new stock-piles which, in the event of an accord, would have to be eliminated? But the matter is slightly more complicated with binary weapons, which differ from all other types of chemical weapons. This kind of ammunition certainly does not have to be stored in its final form. It is sufficient to have its individual components, which are relatively harmless in themselves. Only when these "components" are put together does the desired end product emerge: toxic binary substances which instantly paralyze and destroy every living thing.

It is extremely complicated to monitor the process of creating these individual components: They can be produced by the most ordinary enterprises in the private commercial chemical sector. The United States is only in favor of monitoring state enterprises and firms directly involved in fulfilling Pentagon contracts. And, moreover, only those on U.S. territory. As far as subsidiaries of U.S. multinational corporations scattered all over the world are concerned, Washington does not want to hear about them. The U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks has generously proposed to reach verification agreements with each country individually that has U.S. branches operating on its territory.

Moreover, D. Emery, assistant director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, spoke in the same spirit when addressing the UN General Assembly First Committee, saying that perhaps there is no point at present in concluding a comprehensive convention to eliminate these mass destruction weapons and that perhaps we should limit ourselves to "regulating" chemical weapons.

Is it now clear who is tampering with the facts and why?

SOVIET FM SPOKESMAN ON CW TALKS

LD191505 Moscow TASS in English 1434 GMT 19 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow November 19 TASS—The Geneva talks held within the framework of the disarmament conference have noticeably advanced towards concluding a convention banning chemical weapons, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists here today.

Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the Foreign Ministry Information Directorate, expressed the hope that the next round of talks, resuming on November 23, would accomplish decisive success.

"In principle, all key issues, including verification, have been [words indistinct] the spokesman. "Technical details remain. This problem has been the subject of discussion during the meetings between Eduard Shevardnadze and George Shultz in Washington and Moscow.

Extra steps have been made on our part towards the American position—an issue to which the U.S. attached special significance."

"The USSR showed in Shikhany in October specimens of Soviet Army chemical munitions and the technology for their destruction.

Soviet experts visited a chemical munition destruction facility in Muenster, West Germany. At present, Soviet experts are in the U.S. to visit a facility destroying chemical weapons in Tooele, Utah. Soviet specialists are expected to visit a similar facility in Porton Down, Great Britain.

The talks are nearing completion. Now, however, we are witnessing the attempts to protract them, to avoid a comprehensive ban on chemical warfare means," Gerasimov said. "We hear talking about chemical arms control, not prohibition of chemical weapons, about partial measures, rather than a global solution.

This sets a bad example to countries that do not as yet possess chemical weapons, and encourages the process of their proliferation.

Resolute concentration of efforts is now required at the Geneva talks on the prohibition of chemical weapons. We note with satisfaction in this connection that the statement by West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, published in the newspaper *Saarbruecker Zeitung*, stresses the importance of eliminating all chemical weapons and reaching an agreement on their prohibition.

The minister urged compliance with the rule that no measure for ensuring control which creates extra security should be foiled by the West.

In our view, this is a constructive approach to the problem of banning chemical weapons."

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CSO: 52001029

USSR: FRG CHEMICAL WEAPONS DESTRUCTION FACILITY TOURED

PM201357 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Nov 87 Morning Edition pp 1, 4

[Own correspondent Ye. Bovkun "On the Spot Reportage": "FRG: Soviet Experts at Chemical Installation"—first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] A group of Soviet experts on the destruction of chemical munitions headed by S.B. Batsanov, deputy chief of department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, visited the FRG 15-18 November at the invitation of the federal government. It included representatives of the USSR Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of the Chemical Industry; members of the Soviet delegation at the Geneva talks on prohibition of chemical weapons; and V.K. Sokolov, chief of construction work at the well-known project near Chapayevsk. They had conversations with representatives of the Bonn Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and inspected the Bundeswehr installation for the destruction of combat toxic substances near Muenster.

Muenster—As we approached the ramp to board the small FVW aircraft carrying the number of one of the West German "Luftwaffe" units, it crossed my mind that people like us do not get frequent opportunities to fly in Bundeswehr aircraft. Indeed, this was a far from ordinary operation: Agreement was reached to include a Soviet journalist in the group of Soviet experts on the destruction of chemical weapons invited by the FRG Government to inspect the military installation near Muenster.

The aircraft immediately took a course to the north and, 30 minutes later, landed at Fassberg military airfield on Lueneburg Heath, where NATO and the Bundeswehr traditionally hold their maneuvers and where chemical munitions from the time of World Wars I and II are disarmed. The dumps holding U.S. toxic substances are located elsewhere in the FRG and are inaccessible to visitors.

We traveled to the military training site by car, passing by numerous signs reading "Forbidden Zone." We were met by Professor Metzner, who is a famous specialist on nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological defense, Colonel Rotlaender, and other leaders from the installation.

"We are constantly finding bombs, shells, and grenades filled with highly toxic substances," the colonel told us. "Chemical munition tests were carried out here in 1914-1918 and 1939-1945. Plenty of unexploded ammunition is still to be found in the ground."

"The destruction installation has been in operation since 1982," Metzner added. "Since then we have destroyed 75 tonnes of mustard gas and 325 tonnes of contaminated materials...."

We were issued gas masks. Captain Zellermann gave detailed explanations, halting at every installation. He demonstrated the loading of superstrength steel containers designed for transporting explosive finds and the operation of metal detectors used to detect shells and mines in the ground. Special X-ray instruments make it possible to "examine" their chemical contents.

The military training site, surrounded by several barbed wire fences, occupies a substantial area. The inspection of dumps and premises for the primary handling of shells took rather a long time. Afterward the hosts invited us to the administrative block, where everything we had seen was confirmed by solid reference books and demonstrations of various blueprints and tables.

That was followed by an inspection of the main project: an installation for the thermal destruction of the contents of chemical munitions.

"Toxic substances are virtually never carried into the atmosphere by smoke, but nevertheless we incinerate mustard gas only when the wind is blowing from the city in the direction of the heath. After all, Muenster is only 7 km away," Metzner remarked.

The crowd of local journalists, representing the main radio and television stations and the largest newspapers and journals, were not very interested in the installation. They have seen it all before. They now surrounded members of the Soviet delegation and especially V.K. Solovyev, chief of construction work at the well-known projects near Chapayevsk.

He noted the importance of the frank exchange of information, the hosts' hospitality, and their years-long experience in destroying old munitions, especially where chemical and nonchemical charges have to be differentiated [na stadii differentsiatsii khimicheskikh i nekhimicheskikh zaryadov]. He reminded them that the question of old munitions is also under discussion at the Geneva talks. But Soviet experts are much more perturbed by questions concerning elimination of modern chemical weapons and international cooperation for the sake of a swift conclusion of a convention banning them.

That was the main topic of the final discussion, which officially concluded the inspection of the installation near Muenster. I asked Prof Metzner:

"In your view, what are the chances of international cooperation in the sphere of destroying chemical munitions?"

"It is absolutely necessary. We will be simply forced to embark on it."

"The technology utilized in Shikhany," one of the local journalists who have visited the USSR interrupted, "is of considerable interest in this context. Some of my colleagues perceived this step by the USSR as an invitation to international cooperation in this sphere."

I drew my interlocutors' attention to a substantial discrepancy. The FRG Defense Ministry bulletin for 1986, which was handed out to us back in the aircraft, cited a NATO document which said that the United States would not start production of binary weapons if the Soviet Union agrees in Geneva to conclude a treaty on destruction of chemical weapons. The USSR is prepared to sign the appropriate convention, but the United States intends to start production of binary weapons already in December. What is the FRG attitude toward this?

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The FRG Government, I was reminded, advocates a universal ban. Yes, this is Bonn's official stance. During a recent "Current Affairs Question Time" in the Bundestag, Chancellor H. Kohl confirmed the FRG's intention to withdraw all chemical weapons from its territory by 1992. But spokesmen of the ruling coalition did not go as far as condemning the start of the new chemical arms upgrading in the United States. Why?

It would obviously have been tactless to ask such a question in a place which does not produce but destroys chemical weapons (even if only old ones). I did not ask it. People here always react painfully to discrepancies between FRG and U.S. interests, especially in the security sphere. On the other hand, the visit to Muenster demonstrated with sufficient clarity the West German side's serious interest in stepping up and deepening bilateral contacts in the area of the destruction of chemical weapons.

Putting the Muenster installation on display was a demonstration of openness. Such demonstrations are only to be acclaimed.

USSR: OFFICIALS VISIT U.S. CHEMICAL WEAPONS PLANT

LD201138 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 20 Nov 87

[text] Tooele, Utah, November 20 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladislav Orlov reports:

To Major General R.F. Razuvanov a trip here, to the U.S. military base located not far from Salt Lake City, the administrative centre of Utah, is of particular interest.

The commandant of the Soviet military facility at Shikhanyy, he had recently played host to foreign representatives who had familiarized themselves with the standard specimens of chemical munitions which the Armed Forces of the USSR have in service and with a chemical weapons destruction technology.

One month and a half after that, among a delegation of Soviet experts and diplomats, Razuvanov arrived at the largest depot of chemical weapons in the United States. According to official data, about 42 per cent of the U.S. entire arsenal of chemical munitions is concentrated in the stony desert valley located in-between the snow-capped mountains: stacks of shells, rockets, aerial bombs, mines, and containers with highly-toxic gases and liquids. Many of them are kept for decades and become unfit for use. U.S. specialists admitted there had been instances of 'migration of toxic agents', which the U.S. press described with words more understandable to the uninitiated—'a leak of poisonous gases'. A pilot plant for the destruction of chemical weapons has been functioning at the territory of the base at Tooele for a number of years, and a technology for this complex and highly dangerous process is being tried out.

Experts of the U.S. Department of Defence and the servicemen of the base showed specimens of chemical munitions which are in service with the U.S. Army to Soviet representatives and journalists accompanying him, acquainted them with their technical characteristics, and recounted to them the peculiarities of the effect of various types of toxic agents on the human organism. They spoke in detail of various safety measures being taken to protect the personnel of the base who are constantly side by side with the 'quiet death'.

"We regard the visit to Tooele as a confidence-building measure and as furtherance of the Soviet Union's act", Yuriy Nazarkin, the leader of the Soviet delegation, representative of the USSR at the conference on disarmament, has told journalists.

"In our view, such exchange of visits improves the atmosphere during the discussion of a convention banning chemical weapons. The process of work on the document has entered the concluding stage, and it may be signed as early as in the first half of 1988".

"At this responsible period, it is exceptionally important that all sides show political will and not take steps which would hinder them from reaching decision to exclude chemical weapons from the arsenals of the means of warfare."

Meanwhile, there appear indications that some Western negotiators apparently seek to modernize chemical weapons, and not to eliminate them.

At one of display stands at the exhibition in Tooele, Soviet delegates and journalists saw an artillery GB-2 shell of binary type. Army representatives said that a flow-line assembly of binary chemical munitions—the newest variety of weapons of mass destruction—would begin in the United States before the end of the year.

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CSO: 52001029

IZVESTIYA RECOUNTS UTAH CW PLANT VISIT

Utah CW Plant Visit

PM251025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Nov 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Unnamed own correspondent report: "United States: After Shikhany, Tooele"]

[Text] Washington—A delegation of Soviet diplomats and experts dealing with chemical disarmament questions is in Salt Lake City, the main city in Utah. The delegation is headed by Yu.K. Nazarkin, USSR representative to the [Geneva] Disarmament Conference. The visit's program includes a visit to the U.S. Army chemical forces base at Tooele near Salt Lake City.

The Tooele visit is a return visit for Soviet specialists. Six weeks ago, at the beginning of October, official representatives from 45 countries, including U.S. experts, visited the Soviet military base at Shikhany. There they had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with samples of chemical munitions and with the methods for disarming and destroying them elaborated in the USSR.

On the first day of their visit the delegation saw an exhibition of U.S. Army chemical munitions. Aerial bombs, shells, missiles, and mines filled with chemical warfare agents, with plaques alongside indicating the weight, the size of the shell, and the name of the toxin, were in individual compartments in a spacious building like a factory workshop. For the most part they contain neuromuscular toxins possessing a casualty-producing capability.

It is planned to inspect an experimental installation for disarming and destroying obsolete unserviceable munitions which are to be decommissioned. U.S. officials, including Ambassador M. Friedersdorf, U.S. representative at the talks in Geneva, reported to the delegation members and to journalists covering the visit that the

U.S. experimental installation makes it possible to charge and destroy chemical munitions in conditions of complete security for the technical personnel involved in this operation. At the same time they stated that plans for producing binary weapons have not been revoked.

Yu.K. Nazarkin shared with journalists his assessments of the importance of the exchange of experts' visits.

"We regard our visit to Tooele as a confidence-building measure. Specialists from the United States and other countries earlier visited the military site at Shikhany in our country."

"An important moment has arrived in the talks in Geneva on banning chemical armaments," Yu.K. Nazarkin said. "We have managed to resolve all fundamental questions, the work has moved to the final stage, so it is particularly important to do everything possible to successfully achieve the aim of the talks—the conclusion of a convention to ban and destroy chemical weapons. The USSR has already stopped production of chemical weapons in order to facilitate the success of the talks. However, unfortunately, the United States has not followed our example and is planning in the near future to begin production of a new generation of chemical armaments—binary weapons. This cannot fail to alarm everyone who is interested in progress at the talks."

Further on Visit

PM251039 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Nov 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent A. Blinov dispatch under the "Facts, Events, Opinions" rubric: "Such Exchanges Must Be Continued"]

[Text] Salt Lake City—A delegation of Soviet diplomats and experts on the problem of chemical disarmament have completed their visit to the U.S. Army base at Tooele (Utah).

The 2d day of the visit was devoted to inspecting the installation for destroying chemical munitions. The installation is a workshop away from the base's other buildings. Robot arms dismantle chemical shells in a hermetically sealed box. The contents are pumped out and then incinerated in a high-temperature furnace. The smoke is filtered.

True, all this was demonstrated by means of separate operations using a dummy. After a malfunction occurred at the beginning of this year in work with chemical shells—a leak of a toxin—practical use of the installation was suspended. Work is under way to improve the equipment.

We asked an authoritative specialist—Major General R.F. Razuvanov, member of the Soviet delegation and chief of the military facility at Shikany—to share his impressions of the Tooele visit.

"I think that the visit to the base is a positive step. We were shown the standard range of U.S. chemical munitions. Unfortunately, an incomplete range. Even nonspecialists know that the United States has developed other types of binary weapons apart from 155 mm chemical shells.

"The method of destroying chemical munitions that was demonstrated to us is of interest. Of course, work with real munitions rather than dummies would give a more complete picture. However, something else is essential: The technology for destroying chemical munitions exists."

At the news conference devoted to summing up the results of the visit, special interest was shown in the two sides' positions at the Geneva talks on banning chemical weapons and in the prospects for completing them.

"The first round of mutual visits to chemical weapons facilities has ended." Yu.K. Nazarkin, USSR representative at the Geneva Disarmament Conference, stated. "We are ready to continue similar exchanges and invite U.S. specialists to our country."

"Familiarization with the equipment and methods used in both countries' facilities is useful. But the political aspect is even more important. Mutual exchanges strengthen trust and improve the political atmosphere. This is especially important now that the talks in Geneva on completely banning chemical weapons have entered their final stage."

"In your opinion, when can a convention to ban chemical weapons be signed?"

"We cannot, of course, set a date for the completion of the talks. But we think that the convention to ban chemical weapons may be signed next year."

Some questions proved awkward for M. Friedersdorf, the head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks.

"When could a convention to ban chemical weapons be signed?"

"We are not certain that this will take place next year. We are not yet satisfied with the exchange of data. All obstacles have not been removed in the work on verification methods which could be acceptable to the U.S. Congress. Moreover, 40 countries are taking part in the talks and it is difficult to unite all positions."

"Is this caution in assessing the prospects for completing the talks not linked with the program for modernizing the U.S. chemical arsenal and with the start of production of the latest binary weapons?"

"We need binary munitions," M. Friedersdorf replied, "to counterbalance other countries' armaments. We do not intend to discuss our binary program in Geneva."

The U.S. Administration's approach clearly reflects a desire to reconcile the irreconcilable—talks on banning chemical armaments and the intention to modernize the U.S. chemical arsenal. At the same time the U.S. officials who organized the visit to Tooele acknowledged that such exchanges are useful and must be continued.

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CSO: 52001029

USSR: COMMENT ON U.S. CW PLANT VISIT

U.S. CW Plant Visit

LD211604 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1322 GMT 21 Nov 87

[Text] Tooele, Utah, 21 Nov (TASS)—TASS correspondent Vladislav Orlov reports:

A red-hot cylinder slowly slides out from a fire-spitting furnace on a metal conveyor. Just a little while back it was filled with a whole ton of highly toxic war gas. Now, after special treatment, the container is no more dangerous than an empty gasoline can.

The specially designed furnace is one of the installations at the experimental industrial facility for chemical weapons destruction at the U.S. military base in Tooele, shown on Friday to a delegation of Soviet experts and diplomats. The complex is fitted out with modern equipment, which makes it possible to maintain the necessary level of safety for the personnel at the base, where the complicated and dangerous technology of war gases destruction is being developed.

The guests were familiarized with a long-term program of destruction of chemical weapons stocks, calculated until 1994. It envisages the construction of several special enterprises, the largest of which will be sited outside the main territory of the country, on the Pacific island of Johnston.

However, does this mean that the United States has set a course of resolutely rejecting chemical weapons as a means of armed struggle? Serious doubts about this arose in the minds of both the Soviet delegation and the numerous journalists accompanying it. Remarks by U.S. military and diplomats during the visit and, above all, facts, show that actually the United States is preparing not for chemical disarmament but for modernization of its arsenals of "silent death." It was confirmed, for instance, that mass manufacture of binary chemical munitions—a much more refined and dangerous weapon of mass destruction—will start in the United States in the immediate future, probably as early as 17 December

this year. The perfidy of the binary variety of chemical weapons lies in the fact that it is much easier to store and, consequently, to conceal from possible international inspection.

The negotiations taking place in Geneva on this issue have entered the final stage; a realistic hope for signing an appropriate convention as early as next year has appeared. Many of the document's principle provisions have been agreed upon. It is now a question of political decision by the leading countries of the West, the kind of decision the leadership of the Soviet Union has adopted in undertaking henceforth not to manufacture chemical weapons and to promote in every way their everlasting eradication from the face of our planet.

But in the course of a joint Soviet-U.S. news conference on the results of the visit to the Tooele base, M. Friedersdorf, head of the U.S. delegation to the Disarmament Conference in Geneva, emphatically expressed his pessimism regarding the possibility of concluding an international agreement on chemical weapons. Moreover, in the heat of polemics with the journalists the U.S. envoy made the startling statement that the convention should not envisage a ban on binary weapons, which, allegedly, the United States needs as a "means of deterrence" and a "trump card" at negotiations with the Soviet Union.

M. Friedersdorf, though, tried to alleviate somehow the extremely unpleasant impression he made on those present, and his sides maintained later that the ambassador was misunderstood.

"In general, we evaluate positively our visit to Tooele," Major General R.F. Razuvaev, head of the Soviet military facility in Shikhany, said in a conversation with a TASS correspondent. "It was similar to the showing of types of chemical ammunition of the USSR Armed Forces that took place 6 weeks ago, and doubtless has become yet another step toward creating an atmosphere of trust between our two countries."

"During those exchanges, however, a difference in principle between intentions of the two countries showed itself. Being a military man I am utterly confused by the U.S. position. How can one hold talks on banning chemical weapons and, at the same time, develop the binary program? What is the point of far-fetched arguments regarding the dimensions of the two countries' arsenals if the USSR has expressed its preparedness to liquidate all of its chemical battle reserves? I am confident that mankind is striving to eliminate chemical weapons. There is the corresponding technology for this. It is now up to the U.S. side."

Moscow TV Reports on Visit

LD212204 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 21 Nov 87

[Text] A Soviet delegation's visit to a U.S. military base has ended:

[Correspondent V. Zvyagin, from Tooele, Utah, identified by caption] This area, situated several dozen miles south of Salt Lake City, Utah's capital, is a closed, secret zone. The United States largest chemical ammunition depot, one of nine across the country, covers a considerable area here in the picturesque mountains and deep lakes near the small town of Tooele. [video shows the base and surroundings; armed guard at gate]

A group of Soviet experts and diplomats headed by Yuriy Konstantinovich Nazarkin, the Soviet Union's representative at the Geneva disarmament talks, has arrived on a 2-day visit to the Tooele chemical complex at the U.S. Government's invitation. Our delegation has been invited in response to the visit by a large group of participants in the Geneva disarmament talks and representatives of the United Nations and observer states to the closed Soviet military facility in Shikhany this October.

It is generally acknowledged that both that visit and the broad exchange of views between U.S. and Soviet officials on chemical weapons problems represented a new and important step toward reinforcing trust.

The Soviet delegation was shown samples of U.S. chemical weapons, some of which have been stored in the depots here for 40 or 50 years. The chemical ammunition includes giant airborne bombs, artillery shells, and small mines.

The stationary complex in Tooele also includes an experimental installation for destroying chemical ammunition. Our hosts assured us that strict control is maintained over all the processes as well as over environmental protection. Incidentally, apart from the purely technical aspect of the meeting in Tooele, there was also another—perhaps the most important—aspect, the political one. This was mentioned both by the exchange participants themselves and by journalists from many countries. After all, the ultimate objective of the current talks process in Geneva, within the broad framework of which the visit to Tooele took place, should be the signing of an international convention banning chemical weapons forever.

[Begin Yu. Nazarkin recording, identified by caption] Some of our partners in the talks do not want to conclude a convention but to continue producing chemical weapons. Primarily, I have in mind the beginning of production of binary weapons, or the binary program, the practical implementation of which begins here in the United States on 17 December. It is now particularly important to create a favorable atmosphere at the talks because they are at a crucial, I would say, concluding stage, with virtually all the fundamental issues resolved. [end recording]

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CSO: 52001029

CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

USSR: CW BAN TALKS RESUME IN GENEVA 23 NOV

LD231922 Moscow TASS in English 1829 GMT 23 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva November 23 TASS—The multilateral talks on banning and eliminating chemical weapons were resumed in Geneva today within the framework of the conference on disarmament.

Work will be continued to coordinate provisions of a convention on general and complete ban on this type of weapons of mass destruction. The primary task of the talks' regular round which will continue till December 16 is to elaborate a future convention's provisions concerning an international verification mechanism, including challenge inspections, a sphere to be covered by the convention, and a procedure for the eliminating of the stocks of chemical weapons as well as for their non-production in commercial industry.

The leader of the Soviet delegation, Yuriy Nazarkin, said "the Soviet Union intends to act energetically and constructively at the talks, seeking to resolve all still unsettled issues so that the talks on a comprehensive convention on full ban and on destruction of chemical weapons could be brought to successful completion as early as 1988".

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CSO: 52001029

USSR: BATSANOV ON HOPES FOR CHEMICAL WEAPONS TALKS

LD241441 Moscow TASS in English 1434 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—The Soviet side hopes that a new spurt for concluding a respective convention will be made at the multilateral negotiations on banning chemical weapons that resumed in Geneva Monday, the more so that all of its principled issues have been solved or are close to be agreed upon, Sergey Batsanov, deputy head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Department for the Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy and Space, told a briefing here today.

We hold that the convention should ensure a complete elimination of all chemical weapons stocks and the industrial base for their manufacture and guarantee the non-regeneration of these weapons in the future. All this should be carried out under stringent international control. At the same time, the Soviet side is prepared to treat with understanding the considerations of a number of states to the effect that the convention should not infringe upon lawful industrial and commercial interests of the parties to it. Our attitude to the proposals for developing broad mutually profitable international cooperation in the peaceful uses of the advances in chemistry is equally positive.

But if the state of things at the talks gives ground to positive evaluations, one cannot fail to see alarming elements either, Batsanov said. At issue is the departure by some states from the goal of a world-wide and total ban on chemical weaponry, the substitution of such a ban with piecemeal measures allowing continued development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons. The causes of this are in the military sphere.

I happened to visit at the head of a group of experts a facility to destroy chemical weapons in the city of Munster, West Germany. Old weapons produced in Germany prior to 1945 are disposed of at this facility, which is its specific feature. Nonetheless, a number of decisions underlying its operation are of interest, in the opinion of experts. We assess the results of the trip positively. It has convinced us for one more time that the solution of complex technical questions under discussion at the talks is quite possible on the basis of cooperation among the states concerned.

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CSO: 52001029

USSR: KASHLEV NOTES PROGRESS AT CSCE MEETING

LD202204 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1504 GMT 20 Nov 87

[Text] Vienna, 20 Nov (TASS)—A plenary meeting took place here today at the meeting of CSCE member states in which the state of affairs at the Vienna forum was discussed. Yu. B. Kashlev, USSR Ambassador and head of the USSR delegation, while noting certain progress in military and political matters, pointed out that a number of Western delegations have taken an exceedingly unconstructive stance on humanitarian issues. He appealed for the abandonment of the strategy of prolonging the meeting and for the start of agreement the text of the final document, as well as on the essence of those all-European measures in the military, economic, scientific, and other fields that must be taken in the aftermath of the Vienna meeting.

The head of the Soviet delegation stressed that the proposal about holding a conference on humanitarian matters in Moscow is of special importance in the context of the development of the all-European process.

The USSR delegation also held a press conference today. It was dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the beginning in the hall of "Dipoli" near Helsinki of the consultations on preparing the conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

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CSO: 52001030

KASHLEV: VIENNA CSCE TALKS 'NOT SATISFACTORY'

LD231821 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 23 Nov 87

[Text] The meeting of representatives of the member-states taking part in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe is continuing its work in Vienna. Our correspondent asked the leader of the Soviet delegation, Ambassador Yuriy Borisovich Kashlev, to speak about the talks.

[Begin Kashlev recording] A plenary meeting of the Vienna talks devoted to appraising what has been achieved and plans on how work will proceed, has just ended. If one speaks in brief, then of course the state of affairs at the Vienna meeting cannot be called satisfactory. Why is this? In actual fact, for the first several months the NATO countries ignored military-political questions. They failed to respond to our proposal to consider these issues, and sought, by all means, to sever them from those matters relating to disarmament and security, and from the all-European process. It was only at the end of July, under pressure from the socialist countries and from the neutral and nonaligned countries, that they agreed that we should consider both the issues of continuing the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe, and the start of new talks on reducing the armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

We have been resolutely seeking to ensure that the Stockholm conference is continued on the basis of its mandate, and that a new range of significant—in a military sense—confidence-building measures should be considered. We have also been able to discuss the general problems of disarmament in Europe. In the consultations taking place here between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states—the so-called Group of 23—elaboration of a mandate for future talks on conventional disarmament is continuing, and the decision has been made that these talks will start in 1988. This in itself is an achievement.

The situation in the humanitarian sphere is very complex. A number of NATO countries are acting from very maximalist positions, presenting, to speak plainly, unrealistic demands which can not be accepted by the socialist countries, and also not by many Western countries.

For example, the proposal has been put forward that all hitherto unresolved cases relating to the reunification of families and visits by relatives should be ended within 2 months after the Vienna meeting. There is also a demand to reduce the period of official secrecy [srok sekretnosti] in respect to emigrations so that the period of official secrecy is in force for just 1 year. There are also proposals by Western countries whereby after Vienna, any country should be given the opportunity to automatically convene a conference of 35 [as heard] states to consider humanitarian cases which are not being resolved on a bilateral basis—a very dubious venture. We have put forward a proposal to hold a conference in Moscow on general progress concerning humanitarian cooperation. This is a most significant proposal in this sphere. [end recording]

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CSO: 52001030

NUCLEAR TESTING, FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

USSR: NUCLEAR TEST BAN TALKS CONCLUSION REPORTED

Test Ban Talks Concluded

LD202208 Moscow TASS in English 2137 GMT 20 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva November 20 TASS—The first round of Soviet-American full-scale talks on the limitation and eventual termination of nuclear tests came to a close here today.

That round was mostly of preparatory character with the discussion of organizing issues taking up almost the whole of it. According to mutual agreement, the task was set on the first stage to coordinate as soon as possible, preferably in the first half of 1988, the effective control measures that would permit to ratify the Soviet-American treaties of 1974 and 1976.

During that round the sides agreed to exchange familiarization visits to the nuclear test sites of each other within the framework of preparations for joint experiments aimed at working out a mutually acceptable mechanism of control over the observance of the above mentioned treaties.

Delegation Issues Statement

LD211116 Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 21 Nov 87

[Text] Geneva, 21 Nov (TASS)—The first round of Soviet-U.S. full-scale talks on the limitation and finally the halting of nuclear tests ended here on Friday. In a statement circulated for the press, the USSR delegation notes that the talks were a consequence of the accord reached during the meeting between USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Washington in September this year.

As a result of business-like, intensive talks the sides were able to lay an organizational foundation which will allow dynamic progress to be secured at the next rounds of talks. The sides started working out a joint experiment, proposed by the Soviet Union, for inspection [proverka] on each other's test sites (in Semipalatinsk and Nevada respectively) aimed at drawing up improved measures of

monitoring [kontrol] the accords on the limitation of nuclear test yields. These measures will be used with regard to the Soviet-U.S. treaties of 1974 and 1976, and also—to the extent, of course, to which they can be applied—in the agreements on further limitations of nuclear tests, which will be drafted in the future.

For this purpose, the statement goes on to point out, in January 1988 there will be an exchange of visits by delegations to each other's appropriate test sites. These visits will make it possible to improve prospects for and the organizing and subsequent conducting of the mutually acceptable and agreed joint experiment in monitoring [proverka], which was proposed by the USSR foreign minister in April 1987. As a result of the experiment the sides would be able to adopt a final decision on a mutually acceptable combination of monitoring [proverka] measures.

Another important result was the accord on the setting up of special working groups at the negotiations.

The group engaged on preparing the joint experiment has already accomplished considerable work, which has resulted in the coordinating of a detailed program for an exchange of visits by specialists to each other's proving grounds for familiarization with the test sites at which the experiment will be conducted.

The group on technical questions of verification [kontrol] has already begun its work. A preliminary range of questions has been defined, and they will be the subject of detailed discussion at the next round.

Accord was achieved in principle on a group [as received] for the examination of political and legal issues, which would be able to set about its work just as soon as sufficient material has been accumulated for its transposition into treaty language.

Proceeding from the Soviet Union's principled position of advocating an immediate cessation of all nuclear explosions for test purposes, the statement emphasizes, the USSR delegation at the full-scale negotiations will concentrate all its efforts on the speediest possible solution of this task.

Accord on Specialist 'Swap'

LD211909 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 21 Nov 87

["Geneva Talks on Halting Nuclear Tests--Step Towards Trust"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow November 21 TASS—TASS diplomatic correspondent writes:

The Soviet Union and the United States have reached an accord that in January, 1988 they would swap specialists to be present at either side's test ranges during the holding of nuclear tests. This is an important result of the first round of the Soviet-U.S. full-scale negotiations on limiting and eventually halting nuclear testing, that drew to an end in Geneva.

As a result of businesslike and intense talks, the Soviet and U.S. sides succeeded in laying down the organizational foundation to enable them to move forward at the subsequent rounds of the negotiations on terminating the tests of nuclear devices as well.

An important task is set within the framework of a joint experiment, proposed by the Soviet Union, on verification at each other's test sites—in Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan, and in Nevada: To work out improved methods to verify compliance with the accords on limiting the size of nuclear tests. These methods will be employed to verify compliance with the provisions of the Soviet-U.S. treaties of 1974 and 1976 and, possibly, future agreements on limiting nuclear tests which have not been concluded as yet.

The trip by U.S. officials and experts to a radar station in the area of Krasnoyarsk, the presence of NATO representatives at military exercises in Belorussia, the wide show of the Soviet military base in Shikhany, the reply visit of Soviet diplomats and specialists to the similar military base in Tooele, Utah, and certainly the forthcoming swap of specialists in January, 1988 to verify nuclear tests are important elements in creating an atmosphere of trust, on which the conclusion of accords in the disarmament field largely hinges.

Pasko Comments on Talks

LD231144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0030 GMT 23 Nov 87

[Victor Pasko Commentary]

[Text] The first round of the Soviet-U.S. full-scale talks on the limitation and eventual halting of nuclear tests has ended in Geneva. According to a report, the sides have succeeded in laying down an organizational basis making it possible to secure dynamic progress at the next round of the talks. Here is our commentator Vladimir Pasko:

[Pasko] The very fact that the talks have started makes it possible to talk about a certain change in yet another aspect of the disarmament problem. As is known, until now the United States has flatly refused to discuss the halting of nuclear tests. The only thing they agreed to do was to discuss monitoring [kontrol] measures which could lead to the ratification of the 1974 and 1976 treaties on limiting underground nuclear arms tests and on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. Therefore, the U.S. agreement to hold full-scale talks aimed eventually at halting nuclear explosions that was expressed during the September visit to Washington by the USSR foreign minister shows a certain change in the U.S. position, and this is a clear success of Soviet diplomacy. We regard the talks on banning nuclear explosions as an interrelated process, including the issues of the yield thresholds of nuclear explosions, the number of nuclear explosions a year, and the fate of the above-mentioned treaties. In a word, they should lead to the working out of a full-scale agreement on the complete and final banning of nuclear tests. In this, as the Soviet leadership has stated more than once, we see an effective barrier in the way of the nuclear arms race.

What has the first round yielded? To a considerable degree, it was of a preparatory nature and was occupied with discussions of organizational issues. However, the accords that were worked out at it are substantial. The sides have gotten down to developing the experiment suggested by the Soviet Union aimed at the verification [proverka] of the improved measures of monitoring the accords on limiting explosion yields. The measures will be applied both to the 1974 and 1976 treaties and to accords on further limitations within the possibility of their application. As early as January, the delegations will visit the testing grounds in Semipalatinsk and Nevada, after which they will resume work in Geneva. It is absolutely obvious that these talks, as is the case with any talks with the United States, will not be easy. But another thing is clear, too: Their start is yet another step along the way toward curbing the arms race, strengthening universal security, and creating an atmosphere of confidence in relations between the two countries. With the trip by U.S. experts to the radar station in the Krasnoyarsk region, the demonstration of our military object in Shikhany and the recent return visit of Soviet diplomats and specialists to the U.S. base in Tooele are elements on which the conclusion of an accord in the area of disarmament depends to a considerable degree.

NUCLEAR TESTING, FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

USSR: Palyonykh assesses nuclear test ban talks

LD241502 Moscow TASS in English 1453 GMT 24 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow November 24 TASS—The first round of the full-scale Soviet-American talks on the limitation and eventual ending of nuclear testing, that was held from November 9 to November 20 in Geneva, laid down a good basis for the further advance toward an early solution of talks, head of the Soviet delegation at the first round of the talks Igor Palyonykh said today. He spoke here at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists.

The sides have virtually embarked on the working out of joint experiment for verification at each other's ranges (respectively in Semipalatinsk and Nevada) to work out improved measures of verification of the observance of the 150-kiloton threshold of nuclear explosions stipulated by the 1974 agreements. As a result of that experiment proposed by USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze last April during his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, the sides will obtain the necessary information on the basis of which, following all-round appraisal, it would be possible to make the final decision on the acceptability of some or other methods of verification, as well as appropriate combination of such methods.

The Soviet and U.S. delegations at the talks agreed about the tasks and fundamental principles of the joint experiment, proceeding from the view that it should yield information about effectiveness, practical implication and non-intrusiveness of various methods of verification.

To resolve a number of questions of the preparation for the holding of a joint experiment on verification at the given round, the sides agreed to organize fact-finding trips of Soviet and American experts to each other's proving nuclear ranges in January 1988.

Laying down the organizational foundation for the further work at the talks, the sides agreed during the first round to set up at the talks special working groups. Two of them — the group for the preparation of a joint experiment and the group for technical aspects of verification — began their work. Specifically, the arrangement on fact-finding trips to each other's ranges has been achieved as a result of the work of one of these groups.

If both sides are striving for acceptable settlement of numerous complex political and technical matters, there can be hope that an improved measures of the verification of the observance of the 1974 and 1976 treaties will be worked out at the talks in the foreseeable future, as early as in the first half of 1988.

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CSO: 52001028

USSR: 'MILITARIST' FRANCO-GERMAN INITIATIVES HIT

PM230945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Nov 87 Second Edition p 5

[Yuliy Yakhontov "Commentator's Column": "Not In the Spirit of the Time"]

[Text] Bonn—There is something alarming in the persistence with which Bonn is striving for a rapprochement with France. The enthusiastic commentaries by pro-government West German press and television about a "reconciliation with the French" strike a jarring note. If they are talking about reconciliation with an enemy of almost 50 years ago, then France was not the only one in Western Europe to suffer invasion by Hitler's hordes. If they are talking about only NATO countries, which are close to the FRG in spirit, they would have to "make it up" with Britain, Denmark, and the Netherlands also, not to list them all.

But no, people on the Rhine are sounding off about France. It is good that this "rapprochement" and "reconciliation" should take place in the sphere of culture, science, education, and sport—indeed, there are few areas in which cooperation between two such large and influential European continental countries cannot both benefit the two states' peoples and also promote detente and disarmament. But today's Bonn rightists are putting the main stress on the military-political and military-technical spheres. Addressing French President F. Mitterrand recently, Chancellor Kohl said: "We are ready to impart a new scale to FRG-French relations. This particularly applies to extending military cooperation and cooperation in the area of political security."

The West German chancellor and the French president have met on several occasions on FRG territory in less than 2 months. Joint FRG-French military exercises codenamed "Cocky Sparrow" [Derzkiy Vorobyey] were conducted in September. The idea of creating a joint defense council arose as a result. The question naturally arises here: Defense against whom? Not, surely, against their North Atlantic bloc allies?

In October, during his official visit to the FRG, the French president warned that France would not be able to defend the FRG and that a collective system of security was necessary. Not a month later, at the latest meeting, which has just ended, the two countries' leaders were signing an agreement on joint development of a "second-generation" antitank helicopter and finally reaching agreement on forming a West German-French brigade. This brigade of 3,000-4,000 men under French command will be deployed in the city of Boeblingen, near Stuttgart.

How are we to take all this? Surely the French, who have their own national nuclear forces, feel calm enough without the 500,000-strong West German Bundeswehr? Or is this being done under strong pressure from Bonn, which wants at all costs to be the main partner of a European nuclear power? Yet another question inevitably comes to mind: Does this militarist "fuss"—the latest antitank helicopters, the defense council, and the combined brigade—really accord with the spirit of the time? The peoples of the European countries, which now stand on the eve of the historic step of eliminating medium- and shorter-range missiles, are now turning their thoughts not toward armament but toward ways of reducing the level of military confrontation on the continent, attaining disarmament, and making peace in Europe lasting and reliable.

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CSO: 52001031

USSR: NORWEGIAN 'DISTRUST' OF MURMANSK SPEECH HIT

PM181657 Oslo ARBEIDERBLADET in Norwegian 11 Nov 87 p 5

[Soviet editor Ilya Baranikas "Searchlight" article: "We Must Trust Each Other"--italicized words as published in original]

[Text] There are still many people in the West who believe in the Colt as a peacemaker. In response to Moscow's appeals and unilateral measures against nuclear arms, it is possible to hear in the West voices which praise these weapons' role as peacekeepers in the postwar period.

For 18 months, the Soviet Union observed a unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests. It has made major concessions on medium-range nuclear arms limitations, and in doing so has made an important contribution to the agreement in principle that has been reached with the United States. This agreement is now close to being confirmed in the signing of a treaty. There is even the prospect now that this treaty will be followed by mutual 50% reductions in Soviet and U.S. strategic nuclear arms. The only thing lacking today before a Soviet-U.S. agreement on strategic arms can be concluded is agreement on adhering to the ABM treaty for a further 10 years. The Soviet Union's attitude is founded on the notion that the world will become more secure with every reduction in missiles and every nuclear test that is not carried out.

In the West many people take a different view of nuclear arms in the event of an "enemy attack using conventional forces." It is wrongly claimed that the Soviet Union has a conventional superiority. But there has been no reaction to the Soviet Union's call for cuts in these weapons—which could be asymmetrical, if necessary. The West views the East as if through a wall—not a security wall like the Berlin Wall, but a much more impenetrable wall of distrust and prejudice.

I would like to point out a new and typical example of this: the official Norwegian attitude to the Soviet Union's latest initiative in respect to the Nordic area

(which was contained in Gorbachev's speech in Murmansk on 1 October this year). In line with the traditional wish of this region's inhabitants to maintain the lowest possible level of tension, the Soviet Union proposed limitations on military activity in the north Atlantic and extension of confidence-building measures to this region also, to be extended later to embrace the whole of the Arctic, including the section of it belonging to the Soviet Union. In response to the Soviet proposals, the Norwegian Government (in the proposed budget for the Norwegian Defense Ministry) has moved in completely the opposite direction—it is giving its backing to NATO "forward operations in the northern sea areas" (that is, close to the Soviet Union's shores). Former Norwegian Prime Minister Kare Willoch has declared in a speech in Oslo that "what guarantees small states peace and freedom when they have a large, totalitarian neighbor is not guarantees of respect, but strong defenses and a credible alliance with strong friends."

So what is this? A lack of understanding of the Soviet Union's intentions, or a maniacal desire for conflict? No, in the present case it is more a question of suspicion and distrust. People are frightened of the Soviet Union because it is both a neighbor and "big." People do not trust it because it is "totalitarian," in other words, because Soviet society is organized differently from Norwegian society, for example. It is pointed out that occasionally in the past "the Russian bear" has "laid its paw" on some country or other. When Swedish Moderate Coalition Party leader Carl Bildt formulates the base for a unified approach to the socialist world—at the request of the conservatives' international—he therefore recommends that the policy of nuclear deterrence be continued.

But there are two sides to every coin. Let us try to look at what would happen if the Soviet Union were also to follow the cliched thinking of NATO. Then it would have to count all the Nordic countries as aggressive, because they belong to the "empire of capital" (something that we could use as a label). From orthodox positions we could say that "imperialism does not flinch from anything in its striving for world dominance." We could recall relations between Soviet Russia and the capitalist world, which began in 1918 with 14 capitalist countries attacking us in a war of intervention. We could point to examples from history of real—and not just alleged—totalitarian regimes, such as the fascist dictatorships in Germany, Italy, Hungary, Romania, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Paraguay, Chile, and other countries. We could ask: How after all this can we trust a capitalist country?

But today we have to trust each other, whether we like it or not. In a world in which there are 50,000 nuclear warheads, nothing else is possible. Both sides must admit observers from the other unsympathetic half of the world and create nuclear-free zones with "paper guarantees," and we ourselves must make these guarantees tools that actually work. We must play the role of unarmed peacemakers without any nuclear "Colts."

It has not been an easy path which the Soviet Union has followed to reach its current realization that new political thinking is needed. Now it is calling on other countries—including the Nordic countries—to do the same.

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CSO: 52001031

USSR: NAZARENKO VIEWS NATO'S 'ARMS UPGRADING' PLANS

PM231209 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Nov 87 First Edition [no page given]

[Candidate of Military Sciences Colonel V. Nazarenko article: "They Are Drawing Up Plans For Arms Upgrading"]

[Text] It is rightly said that in politics, as in chess, moves are pondered in advance. A Soviet-U.S. agreement on the "global double-zero" has not yet been signed and procedures for destroying medium- and shorter-range missiles and for reliable verification of the course of their elimination have still not been finalized, yet leading circles in the United States and NATO are already drawing up plans for "arms upgrading"—for replacing the nuclear missiles subject to elimination with other types of weapons.

"Some adjustments may have to be made to the forces remaining at the disposal of the North Atlantic alliance in order to ensure that an effective deterrent potential is retained. We are now studying this question in NATO," British Defense Secretary G. Younger stated recently to London's *The Independent*. For several months representatives of NATO countries' military departments have been holding animated discussions on measures to "compensate" for the possible "loss" of Euromissiles. Pentagon leaders are setting the tone of these discussions. They do not doubt that "when the agreement on medium- and shorter-range missiles is implemented, the President will have more weapons than he has now to prevent threats in Europe." This, at least, is how people in a Pentagon "think tank"—the Defense Information Center—see the ultimate goal of the "compensation" program. Presumably people there know the real plans of U.S. military circles, which do not want to relinquish the strategic advantages which they gained as a result of deploying Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Europe.

The West European press has already begun to widely publicize U.S. plans for West European "arms upgrading": plans to secure an increase in military expenditure from the NATO allies, determine the main directions in building the bloc's allied armed forces in the immediate future, coordinate national doctrines with NATO doctrine, elaborate new military-theoretical concepts, forms, and methods of using existing and future weapons systems in combat, and to create a single control system for troops and weapons.

People in the Pentagon think that these problems can only be successfully resolved by promptly implementing a number of major measures in the military-technical sphere. It is thought that after the elimination of their medium-range missiles the "center of gravity" will shift toward the NATO allied armed forces' tactical nuclear weapons presently in service. According to data from France's *L'Express* magazine, even after the elimination of U.S. medium-range missiles, NATO will have no less than 4,000 nuclear warheads in Europe. In conjunction with U.S. strategic nuclear forces, this will enable the bloc's leadership to continue to adhere to the strategy of "nuclear deterrence." Let us note that for some reason the magazine left out Britain's 500 nuclear warheads and bombs and did not mention the French nuclear potential of more than 250 warheads and bombs.

Practical steps for "NATO arms upgrading" were discussed at the 3-4 November session of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group. In particular, they talked there the need to implement the following measures: modernize the "Lance" missile system with a view to increasing its range to 250 miles and increasing its accuracy; accelerate the elaboration of the new, most promising Army Tactical Missile System, which will replace the "Lance" complexes in the future; and commission a new "air-to-surface" missile capable of carrying a nuclear charge for NATO tactical aviation. It is envisaged boosting the combat capabilities of the bloc's allied air forces by reinforcing them with U.S. FB-111 bombers and also by purchasing for NATO tactical aviation an additional number of U.S. dual-purpose F-15E aircraft, which constitute, as specialists affirm, a "wonderful means of delivering nuclear weapons." It is also planned to reallocate targets on the territory of Warsaw Pact countries intended for destruction by nuclear weapons between ICBM's, SLBM's, and nuclear-tipped "Tomahawk" cruise missiles.

The Atlanticists are planning to supplement the tactical aspect of the "arms upgrading" with the operational-strategic aspect. Above all they intend to implement the U.S. program to deploy 4,000 sea-launched cruise missiles, including 800 with nuclear warheads, and equip with them not only U.S. Navy ships but also those of other NATO countries. They are also trying to close the "European breach" by assigning 150 B-52G bombers from U.S. strategic aviation, suggesting that they be given the tasks which would have been resolved via the Pershing-2's and cruise missiles.

The NATO countries' defense ministers think that the number of formations within the allied armed forces should be increased by several divisions in the future. They are insisting on accelerating work on future weapons systems whose commissioning will force the enemy to reject traditional forms and methods of armed struggle and will minimize the advantages which he allegedly enjoys in general-purpose forces.

People across the ocean think that the West must retain "nuclear deterrence" at any cost, for a nonnuclear Europe is the worst of all evils for them. U.S. President R. Reagan, speaking 28 October this year at the West Point Military Academy, himself confirmed this unequivocally. He said: "Some people contend that when medium-range missiles are removed, our determination to defend Europe will be weakened. This is simply not true. We retain our firm commitment to the NATO flexible response strategy, which guarantees the bloc's capability to prevent aggression at any level. In Europe itself we have retained a large arsenal of nuclear weapons of many types, including nuclear-capable surface systems, aircraft, and submarines."

Perhaps the most urgent task today is to introduce some common sense into politics. But this is scarcely likely to happen if "nuclear deterrence" is regarded with steadfast obstinacy as the be-all and end-all of security, something that is in no way linked with the security of other members of the international community. A. Einstein once said jokingly that it is all a question of perspective: Given the appropriate perspective, the Ptolemaic system will look as faultless as the heliocentric system. Obviously, people in the United States and NATO are taking nuclear weapons alone as their point of reference in their foreign policy strategy and are trying persistently to convince the world that the road to the abyss of nuclear hell is the most reliable.

Contrary to obvious facts, people in the Pentagon and NATO headquarters are trying to "prove" that after the elimination of U.S. missiles in Europe the "threat" from the Warsaw Pact's conventional armaments, which are allegedly considerably superior, will allegedly increase. However, it has long been proved that at the present, given all the existing asymmetries and imbalances in

conventional armaments, approximate equality in Warsaw Pact and NATO combat potentials is being maintained. This is indicated sufficiently convincingly, for instance, in the article "The Military Balance Between the Two Blocs in Conventional Armed Forces and Armaments" by French General (Retired) A. Sanguinetti published in a recent edition of the bourgeois magazine *Le Monde Diplomatique*. The author, with the figures at his fingertips, so to speak, thoroughly refutes the myth of Soviet military superiority.

It is also reasonable to ask the NATO leadership why it has been unable for 18 months to formulate its position on the Warsaw Pact's Budapest proposal of 1986 on the reduction of armed forces and armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals. Why do they not like, say, the method of removing disproportions on the principle that the side with superiority in each class of armaments implements more reductions? Why is there no support in NATO for the Warsaw Pact countries' proposal not merely for quantitative reductions in armaments and armed forces but also for qualitative changes in both alliances' groupings to preclude any possibility of surprise attack or of conducting offensive operations. A controlled withdrawal from borders of offensive types of weapons along with the subsequent creation along the line of contact of Warsaw Pact and NATO troops of reduced-armament zones and demilitarized zones could be the first step toward achieving this aim.

This is obviously not the aim toward which the United States and NATO are striving. The "arms upgrading" plans precisely illustrate their true intentions. This cannot fail to alarm the other side. The communique from the session of Warsaw Pact foreign ministers, held 28-29 October 1987 in Prague, stresses that "...statements by some Western spokesmen calling for 'compensation' for the upcoming elimination of U.S. missiles in Europe with the deployment of new nuclear and nonnuclear armaments and the creation of new military structures are provoking serious concern."

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RELATED ISSUES

USSR: SUPPORT FOR ASIAN NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE

OW220401 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1500 GMT 18 Nov 87

[From "Asian Events" program]

[Text] An international conference on making the Pacific an independent and nuclear-free zone was held in Manila. Participants wanted to extend the Raro-Tonga Treaty to the whole Pacific region. Station commentator (Kuchin) has the following comment on this issue:

The Raro-Tonga Treaty signed in August 1985 by 13 South Pacific countries was a brilliant achievement of the anti-nuclear advocates. The treaty declared the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone and was hailed as a model for the entire Pacific region to free itself from nuclear threat. At the Manila conference, some people called for an agreement modeled on the Raro-Tonga Treaty to remove the nuclear threat from the entire Asian-Pacific region.

Of course, there are other means of making the Pacific a nuclear-free zone. The draft treaty of a nuclear-free Southeast Asia and the proposal of making the Korean Peninsula a nuclear free-zone are some of the options available. With the South Pacific already declared a nuclear-free zone, realization of these other proposals will make the entire Pacific a nuclear-free zone. In addition, we should not forget that a number of countries

supporting detente have taken a step beyond the Raro-Tonga Treaty. For example, New Zealand bans all vessels carrying nuclear weapons from entering its ports. Even the Raro-Tonga Treaty has no such provision. It seems that we should use every opportunity to remove the nuclear threat from the Pacific. Local movements calling for establishing a nuclear-free world, banning nuclear weapons, and demanding the dismantling of foreign military bases capable of deploying nuclear weapons will also contribute to the goal of making the Pacific a nuclear-free zone.

Both the Soviet Union and China are opposed to nuclear threat. They support and approve anti-nuclear struggle. In contrast with big, imperialist powers, the two countries have signed the protocol attached to the Raro-Tonga Treaty. Both countries support the establishment of a nuclear-free Southeast Asia and Korean peninsula. Our similar stands will support the common efforts of our two large socialist countries in Asia to remove nuclear threat from the Pacific.

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USSR: PETROVSKIY PREFACES SECURITY DEBATE AT UN

Security Debate at UN

LD182136 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 18 Nov 87

[Text] New York November 18 TASS—The First Committee (Disarmament and Related International Security Questions) of the United Nations General Assembly is to begin Thursday the discussion of one of the most important items on the agenda of the 42nd session—the question of a comprehensive system of international peace and security. It was submitted to the United Nations by the group of the socialist countries.

The international community hopes that the General Assembly will be able to give a new impetus to the productive dialogue on comprehensive security and will be instrumental in finding universally acceptable ways for establishing it.

Vladimir Petrovskiy, a deputy minister of foreign affairs of the U.S.S.R., gave a news conference at the United Nations Headquarters today. He described the opening debate as the session's peak of sorts.

We proceed from the premise, he stated, that the continuation and development of the dialogue on comprehensive security will assist in vectoring constructive efforts of states toward the search for practical ways for multilateral cooperation in the framework of the United Nations and other international fora.

We regard a wide-scale democratic discussion of that question on a constructive basis free from confrontation as a school for cooperation of all states and their joint creative work in defining the concept of security for all—a concept that would be in line with the realities of this nuclear and space age—and as a genuine school for multilateral interaction.

An integral concept of such organization of the world in which security of every nation will be a guarantee of security of all was offered to the international community by Mikhail Gorbachev in his article *"The Reality*

and Guarantees of a Secure World" addressed to the 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly. In essence, he set forth a broad range of specific ideas concerning ways for overcoming stereotypes of the "enemy image", nuclear intimidation and other intimidation by force in the practice of international relations and the transition to the joint construction of a nuclear weapons-free, non-violent and positive world, Vladimir Petrovskiy went on to say.

Too little has been done so far if it is measured against the scale of the tasks which mankind is to cope with today in order to ensure its survival. But the start has been made and first signs of change are on hand. One of the convincing proofs of that is the accord between the U.S.S.R. and the United States on the elimination of an entire class of nuclear arms for the first time ever. It shows in practice that headway can be made along the lines of destroying the nuclear arsenals without causing damage to anyone. During the third and fourth summit meetings we will vigorously work toward making tangible progress and toward achieving specific results in the key problem of averting the nuclear threat—the problem of reducing strategic offensive systems and preventing arms from spreading to outer space, Vladimir Petrovskiy said.

A balance of interests is the foundation of the proposed system of comprehensive security, the Soviet representative went on to say. We are confident that for all the differences of the contemporary world—social, economic, class, cultural, religious and others—all who are really interested in ridding the world of the nuclear threat and augmenting possibilities for progress on our planet can cooperate with each other. We stand for the transition to a wide-scale policy of confidence in all spheres which comprehensive security should embrace, notably the military, political, economic, ecological, social and humanitarian spheres, including human rights.

The joint initiative of the socialist countries pre-supposes a definite character of measures which would enable the United Nations, the main universal security body, to ensure the maintenance of security at a dependable level, the Soviet deputy foreign minister said. Comprehensive security is not some new system of security contradicting the Charter of the United Nations. On the contrary, the aim of that initiative is to achieve through joint efforts of all states a practical implementation of all provisions of the Charter without exclusion in the day-to-day practice of international relations. We stand for enhancing the role of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the United Nations secretary general. We would like all states to give the maximum of support to them, promote higher efficiency of the United Nations and its institutions and augment their contribution to the solution of international issues.

A useful contribution to the search for answers to all these questions could be made by an expert group that would prepare a report on that matter in time for the 45th session of the General Assembly, he said in conclusion. It would carry out an unbiased analysis of the entire spectrum of views and ideas concerning means for ensuring comprehensive security in all spheres of international relations with a view to bringing conceptual approaches closer together, expanding areas of accord and taking practical actions.

Addresses General Assembly

LD182146 Moscow TASS in English 2133 GMT 18 Nov 87

[Text] New York November 18 TASS—The U.N. General Assembly today unanimously adopted a declaration on enhancing the efficiency of the principle of the of the renunciation of the threat of force or its use in international affairs.

The approval of the declaration became an important political result of the 42nd U.N. General Assembly session, a major achievement of the entire world community. In concretizing and developing the principle of the non-use of force in international relations in the nuclear-space age, the declaration bolsters the commitments not to use force contained in the U.N. Charter and in a whole number of multilateral, regional and bilateral treaties of the post-war period. This document orientates states' efforts at lessening tensions in the world through removing the threat of war, at preventing the arms race in space and arresting it on earth, at attaining general and complete disarmament under stringent and effective international control.

The drafting and eventual adoption of the declaration constitutes an important contribution by the United Nations towards shaping up international law and order that correspond to the requirements for ensuring universal and equal security, Vladimir Petrovskiy, deputy foreign minister of the USSR, said at the plenary session of the U.N. General Assembly. The Soviet delegation

would like to emphasize that the elaboration of this document became possible thanks to the collective efforts by the entire world community, broad business-like cooperation of socialist, non-aligned and capitalist states.

The adoption of the declaration on the non-use of force gives particular satisfaction to us, Petrovskiy said. Since its inception, the Soviet state has been consistently advocating exclusion of war as a means of solving disputable issues. The programme for abolishing nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction, launched by the Soviet Union on January 15, 1986 is based precisely on this.

The USSR delegate expressed confidence that the declaration would take a special place among the United Nations' decisions aimed at asserting the political and legal guarantees of universal security. The declaration adopted on the basis of the concord of all states is evidence of the manifestation of new thinking when specific results that are consonant with the all-human aspirations are achieved through compromises and mutual interest, he stressed.

USSR: UN BEGINS INTERNATIONAL SECURITY DISCUSSION

International Security Discussion

LD200031 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1727 GMT 19 Nov 87

[Text] New York, 19 Nov (TASS) Today, the First Committee of the 42d session of the UN General Assembly started discussion of one of the most important questions on its agenda: The creation of a comprehensive system of international security. The idea of comprehensive security put forward for the consideration of the United Nations by a group of socialist countries, is permeated with a striving to support and consolidate the process of the positive development of international relations on a multilateral basis, stated Vladimir Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister. The main idea of is the finding by collective efforts of a balance of interests of states and of an optimal correlation of national interests with those of mankind as a whole. We invite others to jointly seek ways for mankind to cross the minefield of our times to the 21st century, a nuclear-free and nonviolent world, the Soviet representative stressed.

Petrovskiy Addresses Committee

LD200918 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 20 Nov 87

[Text] New York November 20 TASS—The First Committee of the 42nd U.N. General Assembly session started on Thursday discussing one of the major items on its agenda—the socialist countries' joint initiative for establishing a comprehensive system of international security.

The participants in the discussion stress the need of concentrating the attention on the joint quest for ways of democratic reconstruction of all areas of international relations to overcome confrontation and come over to broader cooperation in solving global problems, eliminating the threat of nuclear self-destruction.

The purport of the idea of comprehensive international security is to find through joint efforts the balance of the interests of the states and the optimum correlation of the national interests with the interests common to the whole of mankind, said Vladimir Petrovskiy, deputy foreign minister of the USSR. The Socialist countries

propose that all the states should jointly look for ways of building up security for all, mobilise the collective reason of the international community with a view of finding realistic and generally acceptable solutions of international problems.

The present-day realities objectively heighten the need for a many-sided approach to questions of international peace and security. The Soviet Union holds that the U.N. Charter is the model of ensuring the security of the international community, considering the national interests of all states. The task, as we see it, is to make this model efficient and reliably guaranteed in new, nuclear-space conditions. It is essential to enhance the efficiency of the United Nations in all areas of its activities for it to become in deed the centre of concerted actions in maintaining international peace and security. Our approaches to intensification of the multilateral process, to internationalisation of efforts of ensuring security were set forth in a concentrated form in Mikhail Gorbachev's article "The Reality and Guarantees of a Secure World" which actually presents a broad and all-embracing initial project of a possible new set-up of life in our common planetary home in accordance with the U.N. Ideals, on the basis of the U.N. Charter, said the Soviet representative. Such a set-up which will make the security of all the earnest of security of everyone.

We believe that the concept of comprehensive security, just as any thinking, should materialise itself in the purposeful political conduct, in acts of reasonable will, in practical deeds, said the USSR representative. The creation of a ramified infrastructure of confidence and openness in the relations between states is the kernel of comprehensive security. It is now required to come over from confidence-building measures in separate areas to broad-scale confidence-building policy, embracing all areas of contemporary international relations. Openness and democratism in internal life and external political activities of states, mechanisms of elaboration and adoption of major decisions, particularly in the military-political sphere, are a very important condition and means of ensuring confidence. Guided by the ideas of democratic control over implementation of international agreements, we advocate that the role of the public be strongly enhanced, including formation under legislative bodies of control commissions made of parliamentarians and representatives of the public who would exercise in public verification of compliance with the obligations stemming from international agreements.

Since the system of universal security should function on the basis of the charter of the United Nations and its framework, we declare for enhancing the role of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the secretary-general of the United Nations. All the states should give in that the utmost support and should promote greater efficiency of the work of the United Nations and its institutions, their greater contribution to solution of international questions, Vladimir Petrovskiy said in conclusion.

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RELATED ISSUES

USSR: U.S. MISSILE INVOLVED IN FRG AIR BASE ACCIDENT

LD201824 Moscow TASS in English 1225 GMT 20 Nov 87

[Text] Bonn November 20 TASS—An American Army truck tractor, carrying four missiles, has turned over at a high speed near the U.S. air base in Ramstein (Rhineland-Pfalz). Three U.S. servicemen were injured. One of the missiles was damaged.

According to the *PPA* news agency, "ground-to-air" anti-aircraft missiles were involved in the accident. The accident place was immediately encircled by U.S. police. Car drivers and passers-by, who were nearby, were thoroughly searched. Some of them had cameras taken away from them and the used film spoilt by exposure. The Rhineland-Pfalz government has ordered the police to report to the public nothing about the accident.

The *Prograss Presse-Agentur* writes that in that area there are depots not only of U.S. anti-aircraft missiles but also nuclear Pershing-2 missiles. Considering very tough measures taken by the authorities, one may suppose that exactly a nuclear missile was involved in the accident, the *PPA* reports.

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UN DECLARATION ON NON-USE OF FORCE PRAISED

LD201940 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 20 Nov 87

[Text] Moscow November 20 TASS—TASS news analyst Valeriy Vavilov writes:

The 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly has adopted a document of immense political importance: A declaration on enhancing the effectiveness of renunciation of a threat or use of force in international relations.

Eleven years of discussions in U.N. specialized committees and at numerous sessions of the General Assembly are over. It must be recalled that the proposal to conclude a world treaty on non-use of force in international relations was put on the agenda of the 31st session of the U.N. General Assembly in 1976 on the initiative of the Soviet Union.

Over the years of discussion, the draft treaty with its compulsory legal provisions has undergone changes, turning in the end into a declaration which should be undoubtedly evaluated as a timely and necessary step on the way to a safer world.

The implementation of the principles recorded in the declaration would promote the formation of a comprehensive system of international security. These principles unequivocally warn the countries against attempts to seek the attainment of their goals through a threat or use of force. The principles direct one to taking effective measures to avert the threat of any armed conflicts, the

threat of the use of nuclear weapons, to prevent an arms race in outer space, to end the arms race on earth, and to seek general and complete disarmament under effective international control.

The provisions set in the 33 points of the declaration were suggested in this or that form and in this or that scope at various international forums by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

The principles are proclaimed in the Delhi Declaration, in the statements of the six-country group — by the leaders of Argentina, Greece, India, Mexico, Tanzania and Sweden — and in the proposals on the establishment of nuclear-free zones and nuclear-free corridors in Europe, in the Indian, Pacific and Atlantic Ocean areas.

A good declaration which accords with the spirit of the times and with the interests of the peoples of the whole world has been adopted.

But in the world, there still remain seats of tension, areas of armed conflicts, and regions where the threat of force persists overtly or covertly. The point now is, in implementation of the provisions of the U.N. document, to take concrete steps towards ensuring peace and security.

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